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GERMAN MEDALS AND DECORATIONS

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FOREWORD

This manual, which is designed primarily for the use of intelligence personnel of U.S. and British armies, was prepared by the MILITARY INTELLIGENCE RESEARCH SECTION, London Branch, for the SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

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INTRODUCTION

The information and illustrations contained in this report were compiled from a great variety of sources. In general, the official German publications "Orden und Ehrenzeichen", "Allgemeine Heeresmitteilungen", Heeresverordnungsblätter", and "Luftwaffe-Verordnungsblätter" were used as primary sources. However, other official, semi-official and unofficial German publications, such as training manuals, periodicals, catalogues, newspapers, etc. contributed a wealth of material. Some few of the illustrations were taken from the "War Office Weekly Intelligence Review". Captured medals and photographs were also of inestimable value in clearing up many doubtful points. The volumes of the German "Meyers Lexikon" were combed for sorely-needed information on the "Medals of Historical Interest" section of the report.

It was found rather difficult to group this miscellany of medals with some semblance of logic, inasmuch as many of them would readily fit into more than one category.

The report is divided into the following two parts:

Part 1. The text presents in detail all the pertinent information available on German decorations. This part is divided into two sections, numbered from A to J.

Part 2. The photographic reproductions of the decorations listed and described in Part 1. This part consists of photographic plates of illustrations, numbered from I to XXVII. The illustrations are numbered from 1 to 214, and these numerals correspond with those found in the text, thus providing a handy cross-reference.

PART 1

TEXT

Part 1.

A. GENERAL COMBAT DECORATIONS

I. IRON CROSS (Eisernes Kreuz)

1. Iron Cross of 1813 (Plate I-1)

The Iron Cross, the oldest and best-known of all German decorations, was originally founded on 10 March 1813 by King Friedrich Wilhelm III as a Prussian state medal. This original Iron Cross of 1813 is identical in shape with the Iron Cross of today. It bears in the center three oak leaves; the crown of Prussia with the letters "FW" (Friedrich Wilhelm) below it, is portrayed at the top while the year "1813" is inscribed at the bottom. In the war years 1813-15, a total of 8542 Iron Crosses were distributed among soldiers of the Prussian Army.

Besides the Iron Cross 1st and 2nd class, King Friedrich Wilhelm also founded the Great Cross of the Iron Cross (Grosskreuz des Eisernen Kreuzes). This decoration was awarded only five times during the war of liberation 1813-15. Its recipients were: Blucher for the battle of Katzbach; Bülow for the battle of Dennewitz; Tauenzien for the capture of Wittenberg; and York for the battles of Laon- Paris. For political reasons, the fifth Great Cross went to the then Crown Prince of Sweden, the former French General Bernadotte.

2. Iron Cross of 1870 (Plate I-2)

The Iron Cross was reintroduced by King Wilhelm I of Prussia on 19 July 1870, the day France declared war on Prussia. Unlike the Iron Cross of 1813, that of the Franco-Prussian War was not embellished with the center oak-leaves. These were replaced by the letter "W" (Wilhelm), while the Prussian crown appeared at the top, and the year "1870" at the bottom. As the earlier Iron Cross, this also has three classes: 1st class, 2nd class, and the Great Cross. The first recipient of the Iron Cross 1st class of this war was Lt. Col. von Hellwig, C.O. of the 9th Hussars, "Regiment Rhein". The following number of awards were made during the war years of 1870-71: 9 Great Crosses, 1304 Iron Crosses 1st class, and 43,005 Iron Crosses 2nd class. The ratio of award was approximately one to every twenty soldiers.

The following were recipients of the Great Cross: Crown Prince Friedrich Wilhelm; King Albert of Saxony; Grand Duke Friedrich Franz of Mecklenburg-Schwerin; Prince Friedrich Karl of Prussia, and the Generals von Moltke, von Manteuffel, von Goeben, and von Werder. At the conclusion of the war, King Wilhelm I, at the entreaty of his General Staff conferred the Great Cross upon himself. Crown Prince Friedrich Wilhelm was the first recipient of the Great Cross for his victories at Weissenburg and Wörth.

3. Iron Cross of 1914 (Plate I-3)

Kaiser Wilhelm II reinstituted the Iron Cross for the third time on 5 August 1914. For the first time it became eligible to non-Prussians, as well as to membersof the German Navy. An order of 16 March 1916 authorized the award of the Iron Cross to soldiers of the nations allied to Germany. It is identical in design with the earlier Iron Crosses, with the exception that "1914" replaces the "1870" at the bottom. Those already possessing the Iron Cross of 1870, and who were again awarded the Iron Cross of this war, received a bar having a miniature Iron Cross in its center and inscribed with the year "1914". This bar was worn on the ribbon of the earlier Iron Cross. The Iron Cross 2nd class was worn on a black-white-black ribbon, while the Iron Cross 1st class was pinned to the breast without a ribbon.

The award of the Iron Crosses of this war closed on 31 March 1924 with the following totals: 5,196,000 Iron Cross 2nd class; 218,000 Iron Cross 1st class; 5 Great Crosses. In this war every third German soldier received one form of the Iron Cross. The following were recipients of the Great Cross: the Kaiser; Hindenburg; Mackensen; Prince Leopold of Bavaria; and Ludendorff. In addition 13,000 Iron Cross 2nd class were awarded for distinguished services at home. These were worn on a white ribbon, edged with black.

4. Iron Cross of 1939 (Plate I/4-9)

On 1 September 1939 the Iron Cross was reintroduced by Hitler for the fourth time, this time as a Reich national decoration. The Iron Cross of today may be awarded for conspicuous bravery in face of the enemy, or for outstanding services in leadership on the battlefield. It is a black cross edged with silver. In its center reposes a swastika, while the numerals "1939" are inscribed at the bottom. The ribbon is black-white-red from the edges inward, the single central stripe being the broadest. There are several grades of this decoration, and they rank in the following order:

a) Iron Cross 2nd class (lowest grade)
b) Iron Cross 1st class
c) Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross
d) Oak Leaves to the Knight's Cross
e) Oak Leaves with Swords to the Knight's Cross
f) Oak Leaves with Swords and Diamonds to the Knight's Cross
g) Great Cross of the Iron Cross

If the holder of the Iron Cross 1st or 2nd class of the war of 1914-18 should win the Iron Cross in the present war, he does not receive another cross; he is awarded instead a silver bar in the form of the German eagle and swastika, under which isthe date "1939". (Plate I-6) This bar is worn on the ribbon of the Iron Cross 2nd class or pinned to the blouse immediately above the Iron Cross 1st class.

a) Iron Cross 2nd class (Eisernes Kreuz II.Kl.)

The Iron Cross 2nd class may be worn suspended from the ribbon

over the left breast pocket. Usually, however, the ribbon alone is worn passed through the second buttonhole of the blouse. (Plate I-4)

b) Iron Cross 1st class (Eisernes Kreuz I.Kl.)

Awarded to holders of the Iron Cross 2nd class only for further acts of bravery on the battlefield. It is the same as the 2nd class medal, but it is worn, fastened to the left breast pocket, without a ribbon. (Plate I-5)

All members of the Armed Forces, regardless of rank, are eligible to receive the Iron Cross in all grades. The awards are made in the name of the Führer on recommendation of the C-in-C of the respective branch of the Armed Forces, or the Chief of the High Command of the Armed Forces. The award of the cross in a higher grade is predicated on the possession of the next lower grade.

c) Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross (Ritterkreuz des Eisernen Kreuzes)

This next higher grade of the Iron Cross may be awarded on the decision of Hitler only. It may be bestowed for the display of exceptional personal bravery having a decisive effect on the outcome of a battle. This cross is larger than the Iron Cross 1st and 2nd class, and is worn around the neck on a broader ribbon of the same colors. 1781 Knight's Crosses were awarded during the first 3 years of the present war.

d) Oak Leaves to the Knight's Cross (Eichenlaub zum Ritterkreuz)

This decoration consists of three silver oak-leaves mounted on the ribbon, immediately above the Knight's Cross. It was awarded for the first time at the memorable session of the Reichstag on 19 July 1940 to the now dead Generalleutnant Dietl for his conduct of the campaign at Narvik. By the middle of January 1943, 182 members of the German Armed Forces had received this honor. (Plate I-7)

e) Oak Leaves with Swords to the Knight's Cross (Eichenlaub mit Schwertern zum Ritterkreuz)

This medal, mounting two crossed swords below the oak leaves, has been awarded 24 times up to April 1943.(Plate I-8)

f) Oak Leaves with Swords and Diamonds to the Knight's Cross (Eichenlaub mit Schwertern und Brillanten zum Ritterkreuz)

This decoration, one of the highest German award for bravery, is similar to the one above, but with the oak leaves and the sword-hilts studded with diamonds. Up to a year ago only the five most successful fighter pilots received this decoration, in the following order:

Oberstlt. Mölders; the now Generalmajor Galland, inspector of night fighters; Major Gollob; Oblt. Marseille on his reputed 125th air victory; and finally Oblt. Graf on his 172nd air victory.(Plate I-9)

The bestowal of the Iron Cross, as well as of all other German decorations, is in each instance accompanied by a certificate of award (Besitzurkunde), which remains in the possession of the recipient.

g) Great Cross of the Iron Cross (Grosskreuz des Eisernen Kreuzes)

This highest of German decorations is worn suspended from the neck on a broad black-white-red ribbon. In size it is double that of the Iron Cross. It is awarded only for outstanding achievements which have a decisive influence on the course of the war. "Reichsmarschall" Göring is the only wearer of this medal, having received it in recognition of his creation and development of the German Luftwaffe.

II. WAR SERVICE OF MERIT CROSS (Kriegsverdienstkreuz)

Hitler founded this decoration on 18 October 1939 to reward services for which the Iron Cross could not be conferred. The Knight's Cross of the War Service of Merit Cross was instituted on 28 August 1940. This decoration may be awarded in the following four grades:

1. War Service of Merit Cross 2nd class (lowest grade)
2. War Service of Merit Cross 1st class
3. Knight's Cross of the War Service of Merit Cross
4. War Service of Merit Medal

This decoration is in the form of an eight-pointed Maltese cross, bearing in its center the swastika within a round wreath of oak leaves. The year "1939" is inscribed on the reverse side. The 2nd class cross is bronze, while the 1st class is silver. It may be presented with swords for special services while under enemy fire, or for extraordinary services connected with the conduct of the war; without swords for special services in connection with the war effort,but not at the front under enemy fire. In exceptional cases, at the discretion of Hitler, the War Service of Merit Cross may be awarded to women. When awarded with swords, these are crossed diagonally, with the points upwards under the circular center of the cross. The holder of the Iron Cross is not eligible for the award of the War Service of Merit Cross. The holder of the War Service of Merit Cross may now wear the Iron Cross, if awarded, as well as the War Service of Merit Cross.

The 2nd class cross (Plate II-10) is worn on a ribbon, or the ribbon alone may be worn from the buttonhole of the blouse. This ribbon is red-white-black from the edges inward, the single central stripe being the broadest.

The 1st class cross is worn fastened to the breast without a ribbon (Plate II-11)

The Knight's Cross of the War Service of Merit Cross (Ritterkreuz des Kriegsverdienstkreuzes) is silver. It is larger than the 1st and 2nd class crosses, and is suspended from the neck on a broader ribbon of the same colors. The bestowal of this decoration is reserved for the Führer. It may also be conferred with swords for outstanding military deeds that decisively affect the trend of the war, or without swords for outstanding accomplishments in connection with the war effort.

The War Service of Merit Medal (Kriegsverdienstmedaille) is bronze. It comes in the shape of the cross fastened on a round disc. On its reverse side is inscribed "Für Kriegsverdienst 1939". This medal is reserved exclusively for those civilians who performed with merit tasks connected with the production of war material, such as a minimum of six months' service in a war plant, etc. The ribbon is the same as that of the War Service of Merit Cross, excepting that a narrow red stripe runs lengthwise in the center of the black. (Plate II-12)

III. THE WOUND BADGE (Das Verwundetenabzeichen)

The Wound Badge was reinstituted by Hitler on 1 September 1939. It is similar to that of the last war, and consists of an oval badge edged with a laurel wreath within which a steel helmet reposes on two crossed swords; a swastika is superimposed on the helmet. This swastika is not present on the Wound Badge of 1914 for members of the Army. (Plate II-13) In the war of 1914-18, members of the Navy were awarded a distinct Wound Badge of their own. (Plate II-14)

The Wound Badge is awarded to those who have sustained wounds or bodily injury (freezing etc.) through direct enemy action. It is awarded in the following three grades, depending upon the number, or severity of the wounds:

1. In black (lowest grade) for those wounded once or twice
2. In silver for those wounded 3 or 4 times
3. In gold for those wounded more than 4 times

The Wound Badge is worn without a ribbon on the left breast of the blouse. Multiple wounds sustained at one time count as one wound. This badge is not awarded for illness or accident, even though occurring at the battle front.

The badge in silver may be awarded, regardless of the number of the wounds, to those who have lost a hand, a foot, an eye, or who through enemy action have become totally deaf. The badge in gold may be awarded, regardless of the number of the wounds, to those who have become totally blind through enemy action, or who have sustained brain injuries resulting in mental illness. Civilian personnel employed in the construction of the "Western Wall" are also eligible for the wound badge, if they were injured through enemy action. Since July 1943, it may also be conferred upon those non-members of the Wehrmacht who have suffered injuries through enemy action in the theater of operations, in occupied territories, in the "Generalgouvernement", or in the "Protektorat". (Plate II-15)

IV. ORDER OF THE GERMAN CROSS (Kriegsorden des Deutschen Kreuzes)

This order was instituted by Hitler on 28 September 1941, largely to bridge the gap between the Iron Cross 1st class and the Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross; especially in view of the large number of the Iron Crosses 1st class awarded.

The decoration consists of a dark grey, eight-pointed star, edged with silver, and measuring 65 mm in diameter. The center of the star is occupied by a large black, silver-edged swastika on a field of dull silver within a circular laurel wreath in silver or gold, respectively. The bottom of the laurel wreath bears the date "1941". The German Cross is worn on the right breast without a ribbon.

It may be awarded:

1. In silver (lower grade) for repeated services of exceptional merit in the conduct of the war.

2. In gold for repeated display of extraordinary gallantry in action, or for repeated outstanding feats in leadership on the battlefield.

A prerequisite for the award of the German Cross in either silver or gold is the possession of the Iron Cross 1st class, the bar to the Iron Cross 1st class of 1914, or the War Service of Merit Cross 1st class with swords. (Plate II-16)

V. THE HONOR-ROLL CLASP (Die Ehrenblatt-Spange)

Hitler founded this decoration in March 1944. It may be awarded to soldiers of all grades who have been cited in an order-of-the-day (Tagesbefehl), and thus entered the "Honor Roll of the German Army" (Ehrenblatt des Deutschen Heeres). The clasp consists of a golden swastika within a circular oak-leaf wreath, and is worn fastened to the black-white-red ribbon of the Iron Cross of 1939; the ribbon being attached to the buttonhole of the blouse.

The eligibility requirements are:

a) Possession of the Iron Cross 1st class, and
b) Extraordinary acts of bravery in combat of a nature that would ordinarily justify the award of the Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross. The award is retroactive for all those who have been cited in an order-of-the-day prior to the institution of this clasp of honor. (Plate II-17)

VI. BRAVERY AND SERVICE OF MERIT BADGE FOR EASTERN VOLUNTEERS (Tapferkeits- und Verdienstauszeichnung für Angehörige der Ostvölker)

This badge, founded on 14 July 1942, may be awarded wither with swords as a combat decoration for bravery, or without swords as a service decoration for meritorious servives. It embraces the following grades:

a) 2nd class, in bronze (lowest grade), on a dark-green ribbon
b) 2nd class, in silver, on a green ribbon with white edges
c) 2nd class, in gold, on a light-green ribbon with white edges
d) 1st class, in silver
e) 1st class, in gold

The first three are worn from the medal-bar, or the ribbon alone is worn from the buttonhole of the blouse; the last two are worn without a ribbon, pinned to the breast.

The badge with swords is awarded for bravery to those Eastern volunteers who participate in combat operations against the Russians under German command, whereas the badge without swords is conferred upon those Eastern volunteers who perform special services within the occupied Eastern provinces in connection with the war against "Bolshevism".

Members of the following volunteer organizations are eligible:

1. Turkestan battalions, including Turkestan construction battalions
2. Cossack units
3. Crimean Tartars
4. Local Security Forces (landeseigene Sicherungsverbände), composed of volunteer local inhabitants, or discharged prisoners of war who are "defending their homes" against the Russian Army, the Partisans etc.
5. Police Forces (Ordnungsdienste) within the zone of operations
6. Volunteer local residents and discharged prisoners of war who enrolled in the German Army as "auxiliaries" (Hilfswillige).

Since November 1942, this badge may also be awarded as a commemoration badge to those German soldiers, up to battalion commander, who have commanded or were members of units composed of Eastern volunteers. However, the possession of the Iron Cross 2nd class is a prerequisite to the award of the 2nd class badge in silver, while possession of the Iron Cross 1st class is required for eligibility for the 1st class badge in silver.

In addition to this decoration, members of foreign volunteer organizations originating from occupied Russian territories and incorporated into the German Armed Forces, who display extraordinary bravery or render special services, are since March 1944 eligible to receive the Iron Cross, or the War Service of Merit Cross, respectively. The award of the Iron Crosses 1st or 2nd class is predicated upon the possession of the corresponding class of the Bravery etc. badge in silver with swords, while the War Service of Merit Crosses 1st and 2nd class without swords may be awarded to those who possess the corresponding classes of the Bravery etc. badge in silver without swords.

Furthermore, these volunteers may now also receive, under conditions that apply to all others, the Eastern Front Medal, the Wound Badge, and the various Assault Badges. (Illustration or description not available)

B. ASSAULT BADGES

I. INFANTRY ASSAULT BADGE (Infanterie-Sturmabzeichen)

Founded on 20 December 1939, this badge may be awarded to officers, NCO-s and privates of rifle companies in infantry and mountain infantry regiments, who have since 1 January 1940 met all of the following three requirements:

1) Have taken part in three assault operations on 3 different days
2) Have been in the foremost lines
3) Have penetrated the enemy line, weapon in hand

Successful armed reconnaissance, as well as counter-attacks are counted as assult operations, provided they lead to close fighting.

The badge is silver for infantry and mountain infantry units, and bronze for motorized infantry units. It is designed in the form of an oval wreath of oak leaves, on which is superimposed a rifle with a fixed bayonet pointing diagonally upwards and to the left, the whole being crowned by the German eagle and swastika. This decoration is worn without a ribbon on the left breast-pocket of the blouse, and is awarded by the regimental commander.

The award has now been extended to include other units of infantry regiments, such as infantry howitzer (gun) companies, antitank companies etc., providing the conditions listed above have been fulfilled.
(Plate III-19)

II. TANK ASSAULT BADGE (Panzerkampfabzeichen)

Until 1 June 1940 this badge was called "Panzerkampfwagenabzeichen". It may be awarded in silver to officers and other ranks of Panzer units who since 1 January 1940 participated as tank or armored car commanders, gunners, drivers or radio operators in at least three engagements on three different days. Since 1 June 1940, the same badge in bronze has been extended to personnel of Panzer Grenadier regiments, Panzer reconnaissance battalions, and armored car units.

The conditions governing the award of this badge are the same as those of the Infantry Assault Badge. This badge consists of an oval oak-leaf wreath enclosing a heavy tank, the whole surmounted by the German eagle and swastika. It is worn without a ribbon on the left breast-pocket.

A recent provision makes medical personnel eligible, provided they go forward into action in tanks and attend the wounded in the combat area.

Since July 1943, the Tank Assault Badge may be awarded in the following four grades:

a) Grade 1 (original grade).....awarded after 3 engagements
b) Grade 2..... " " 25 "
c) Grade 3..... " " 50 "
d) Grade 4..... " " 75 "

After participation in 100 or more engagements, the grade 4 badge will be reissued with the numerals "100" superimposed.

This badge is awarded by commanders of Panzer divisions.(Plate III-20)

III. ASSAULT BADGE (GENERAL) (Sturmabzeichen (Allgemeines))

The Assault Badge (General) was instituted on 1 June 1940 for the purpose of rewarding personnel of the branches of service that support the infantry and Panzer arms, and who are not eligible to receive the Infantry Assault Badge, or the Tank Assault Badge. It was originally intended as an assault badge for engineers, but was later extended to include personnel of other arms who have an ancillary role in the assault of infantry and armored formations. The award is made to personnel of the artillery, engineers, antitank and antiaircraft units, if they help to carry the assult forward and assist in achieving a break-through in the enemy's line. Medical personnel are now eligible, if they attend or rescue wounded under the same battle conditions as the assaulting infantry in the close-combat area.

The badge is silver, and displays a hand-grenade crossed with a bayonet, surmounted by the German eagle and swastika, the whole enclosed within an oval wreath of oak leaves. It is worn on the left breast-pocket of the blouse.

Since July 1943, this badge is issued in the same four grades as the Tank Assault Badge (par. II, above), and under identical conditions. Its recipients may now include members of assault-gun units (Sturmgeschützeinheiten), assault-tank units (Sturmpanzereinheiten), and self-propelled antitank units. The number of engagements (Einsatztage) for both the Tank Assault Badge and the Assault Badge (General) will be computed as of 1 July 1943. However, those already possessing either of these badges will be credited with three engagements for the period prior to this date. In addition, personnel of the arms eligible to receive this badge, who have since 22 June 1941 had uninterrupted service in Russia or in Africa, will be given credit for the following number of engagements:

a) 25 engagements..... for 15 months' service
b) 15 engagements..... " 12 " "
c) 10 engagements..... " 8 " "

(Plate III-21)

IV. SPECIAL INSIGNIA FOR THE SINGLE-HANDED DESTRUCTION OF TANKS ETC.
(Sonderabzeichen für das Niederkämpfen von Panzerkampfwagen usw. durch Einzelkämpfer)

Founded in March 1942, this sleeve insignia is awarded to soldiers who single-handed destroy or disable a tank or other armored vehicle in close-combat, resorting to close-combat weapons only, such as antitank rifles, rifle shells, pole charges, hand-grenades etc. One insignia is bestowed for each tank or other armored vehicle thus destroyed or disabled.

The decoration consists of an aluminum-colored band measuring 90 x 32 mm, with a 3 mm wide interwoven black stripe both at the top and bottom. It is worn as an armband on the right upper sleeve. One insignia is awarded for each tank destroyed, and more than one may be worn simultaneously. This decoration was formerly known as "Sturmabzeichen für die Erledigung feindlicher Kampfwagen".

Since January 1943, this insignia may be awarded on a gold band. After accounting for a fifth tank or other armored vehicle, a soldier will, instead of a fifth silver insignia, receive the decoration on a gold band. The four silver decorations are then taken off, and the gold armband alone is worn. (Plate III-22)

V. CLOSE-COMBAT BADGE (Nahkampfspange)

In recognition of personal bravery displayed in close-combat, hand-to-hand engagements, Hitler inaugurated this decoration on 25 November 1942. It is awarded to soldiers for hand-to-hand combat with the rifle, pistol, hand-grenade, knife, or other close-combat weapon, while on foot and unsupported. It is conferred primarily upon members of the infantry, but other arms are eligible, providing the prerequisites are complied with. Soldiers who already possess the Infantry Assault Badge, may nevertheless become recipients of this badge. The award may be made in the following three grades:

a) 1st class in bronze (lowest grade)..... for 15 close-combat days
b) 2nd class in silver..... " 30 " " "
c) 3rd class in gold..... " 50 " " "

The close-combat days are computed as of 1 December 1942. However, soldiers who saw uninterrupted service on the Eastern Front after 22 June 1941, will be credited with the following number of close-combat days:

1) 15 close-combat days.....for 15 months' uninterrupted service
2) 10 " " ..... " 12 " " "
3) 5 " " ..... " 8 " " "

The number of close-combat days required to receive the 1st 2nd, or 3rd class badge, may be reduced to 10, 20, or 40, respectively in the case of severely wounded soldiers who would otherwise have no further opportunity to participate in close-combat engagements.

The Close-Combat Badge is in the form of a long and narrow metal brooch and is worn above the left breast-pocket. Its square center contains a bayonet crossed with a hand-grenade and surmounted by the German eagle and swastika; each side of the center square is ornamented with a design of rays and oak leaves. (Plate III-23)

VI. ARMY ANTIAIRCRAFT BADGE (Heeres-Flak-Abzeichen)

This badge was originally founded on 18 July 1941, but the provisions of its award were modified by the Army High Command on 4 September 1942. Since June 1941, it may be awarded to officers and enlisted men of Army antiaircraft units (Heeres Fla-Truppen und Heeres-Flak-Einheiten) for repeated distinguished participation in successful engagements against enemy aerial targets. The award is limited to individuals, and is not conferred on a unit as a whole. To become eligible, the individual soldier must accumulate 16 points. He will be credited with two points for participating in the shooting down of an enemy plane. If the enemy plane was brought down by a section of a battery (troop), without the assistance of another section, then all the participating members of that particular section will be credited with four points. One point will be given to crews of searchlight batteries (troops) for being first in the sound detection of an enemy aircraft.

This silver badge, worn on the left breast, bears within an oval wreath of oak leaves an 8.8 cm antiaircraft gun, the whole surmounted by the German Army eagle and swastika.

The holder of this medal is not barred from acquiring the Assault Badge (General). (Plate III-24)

C. CAMPAIGN DECORATIONS

I. SPANISH CROSS (Spanien-Kreuz)

The Spanish Cross is awarded in bronze, silver, or gold, and with swords or without swords to former German volunteers of the "Condor Legion" for their accomplishments in the Spanish civil war. It is worn without a ribbon on the right breast. It is in the form of a Maltese cross embossed with a swastika within a circular disc in its center. If awarded with swords, these are crossed diagonally with the points upwards. Four Luftwaffe eagles with swastikas straddle the swords between the arms of the cross.

Two other decorations may be awarded to those who took part in the Spanish civil war of 1936-39. One of these is the special Wound Badge for those who sustained wounds in this campaign, and the other the "Spanien-Hinterbliebenen-Kreuz", awarded to the next of kin of those who have fallen on Spanish soil. (Plate IV-25)

II. AUSTRIAN COMMEMORATION MEDAL (Medaille zur Erinnerung an den 13 März 1938)

This is a silver commemorative medal awarded to all those who took part in the occupation and initial administration of Austria, or had contributed to the execution of the "Anschluss", whether military personnel or civilians.

The medal is circular in form and shows two athletic male figures advancing with the flag of the Third Reich, with the national emblem as their stepping stone. The reverse side bears the inscription "Ein Volk, Ein Reich, Ein Führer" and the date "13 März 1938". The ribbon is red, edged with narrow stripes of white-black-white. (Plate IV-26-27)

III. SUDETEN COMMEMORATION MEDAL (Medaille zur Erinnerung an den 1 Oktober 1938)

This bronze medal commemorates the union of Sudetenland with the Third Reich, and was instituted on 18 October 1938. It is similar to the Austrian medal, but has on the reverse side the date "1 Oktober 1938". The ribbon is black-red-black, in stripes of equal width, with a very narrow edging of white. The conditions governing the award are the same as those for the Austrian medal.

The medal is awarded also for service in the creation of the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia. To those already in possession of the Sudeten medal, a bar to the medal is awarded for work in connection with the creation of the Protectorate. The bar is in the form of a bronze metal strip bearing the image of the castle of Prague and is worn clipped on the ribbon of the Sudetan medal. (Plate IV-28)

IV. MEMEL COMMEMORATION MEDAL (Medaille zur Erinnerung an die Heimkehr des Memellandes)

This medal commemorates the return of Memel to the Third Reich on 22 March 1939, and was instituted on 1 May 1939. It is in dull bronze and the face is of the same design as the Sudeten and Austrian medals. The reverse bears the inscription "Zur Erinnerung An Die Heimkehr Des Memellandes 22 März 1939", enclosed within a wreath of oak leaves. The ribbon is green in center, with white-red-white on both sides. (Plate IV-29)

The Austrian, Sudeten and Memel Commemoration Medals are worn from the medal bar on the left breast of the blouse.

V. DANZIG CROSS (Danziger Kreuz)

This cross was founded by "Gauleiter" Forster of Danzig to commemorate the incorporation into the Reich of the city of Danzig. It is awarded in two classes. Class 1 is worn pinned to the breast, while class 2 is worn on a ribbon of the colors of Danzig. (No illustration or description available)

VI. NARVIK SHIELD (Narvikschild)

After the operations in Norway, Hitler on 19 August 1940 inaugurated a Narvik decoration to commemorate the "heroic and victorious joint operations at Narvik". The decoration is in the form of an elongated shield showing the "Edelweiss" of mountain regiments above an anchor crossed with an aircraft propeller, and topped by the inscription "Narvik 1940"; the whole is surmounted by the German eagle grasping a wreath enclosing a swastika. The decoration, silver for the Army and Air Force, and gold for the Navy, is worn on the left upper sleeve.

All members of the Armed Forces who played an honorable part in the landing at Narvik or in the subsequent operations, are eligible for the award. (Plate IV-31)

VII. CRETE ARMBAND (Ärmelband Kreta)

This armband decoration, inaugurated on 16 October 1942, consists of a white armband with gold borders, and bears the inscription "Kreta". Worn on the lower left sleeve of the uniform, it is awarded to all members of the Armed Forces who played an honorable part in the land, sea and air battles for Crete. Members of the following Army units who landed or parachuted down on the island up till 27 May 1942, are eligible:

5th and 6th Mountain Divisions
2nd Battalion, 31st Tank Regiment
55th Motorcycle Rifle Battalion
609th Antiaircraft Machine-Gun Battalion

Also eligible are members of the Army who went to sea with the light flotilla on 19 May 1941 and who participated in the sea-battle near the island. (Plate IV-32)

VIII. CHOLM SHIELD (Cholmschild)

This award was instituted on 1 July 1942 to commemorate the defence of the beleaguered city of Cholm on the Eastern Front by the "Kampfgruppe Generalmajor Scherer" during the period 21 January 1942 and 5 May 1942. All members of the "Wehrmacht" or those subordinated to it who were part of the garrison and who played an honorable part in the defense of the city within the period named above, are eligible for the award. The decoration is in the form of an elongated shield bearing the German eagle clutching the Iron Cross in its talons. The lower part of the shield is inscribed "Cholm 1942". It is worn on the left upper sleeve. The awards are made in the name of the Führer by General Scherer, commander of the defending forces. (Plate IV-33)

IX. EASTERN FRONT MEDAL (Ostmedaille)

This medal was founded on 26 May 1942 to commemorate service on the Russian Front during the first winter campaign between 15 November 1941 and 15 April 1942. Its official German designation is: "Winterschlacht im Osten 1941/42 (Ostmedaille)". It may be awarded to officers and enlisted men who have met one of the following prerequisites:

a) Participation in at least 14 days' fighting. For Luftwaffe personnel flights against the enemy on 30 different days is required.

b) Wounding or freezing that resulted in the award of the Wound Badge.

c) Completion of a minimum of 60 days' uninterrupted service on the Eastern Front.

Personnel of semi-military and auxiliary organizations are also eligible, if during the period prescribed, they were subordinated to, or were executing tasks directly on behalf of the Wehrmacht.

The circular medal is steel-grey. On its face is found the inscription "Winterschlacht im Osten 1941/42," surmounted by a white steel helmet covering a hand-grenade; below the inscription appears a bayonet crossed with a sprig of laurel. The reverse side bears the German eagle and swastika with a sprig of laurel under the latter. The ribbon is red, with a very narrow white-black-white vertical stripe in the center. The medal is worn on the left breast of the blouse, or the ribbon alone may be worn from the buttonhole. (Plate V-34-45)

X. CRIMEA SHIELD (Krimschild)

This campaign decoration was founded on 25 July 1942 in memory of the battles on the Crimean peninsula. It is awarded to all members of the Armed Forces who participated in the Crimean campaign during the period of 21 September 1941 and 4 July 1942. Generalfeldmarschall von Mannstein has been delegated by Hitler to distribute this shield. The following conditions govern the award:

a) Participation in a main engagement, or
b) Wounding, or
c) A minimum of 3 months' service on the peninsula

The shield is bronze and portrays the geographical outlines of the peninsula and the seas surrounding it, surmounted by the national insignia within an oak-leaf wreath. To the left and right of this wreath are inscribed the dates "1941" and "1942", respectively. It is worn on the upper left sleeve. (Plate V-36)

XI. DEMJANSK SHIELD (Demjanskschild)

Hitler founded this campaign decoration in April 1943 in memory of the 14 month siege of the surrounded battle sector of Demjansk on the Eastern Front in 1941-42. All members of the Wehrmacht who played an honorable part in these defensive battles, are eligible. The original awards were made in the name of the Führer by the C.O. of the defending forces, General Graf Brockdorff-Ahlefeldt (dead). It is worn on the left upper sleeve. The shield contains two crossed swords, with an aircraft in flight across the points (in commemoration of the fact that for 14 months the garrison had been supplied by air); below the sword-hilts appear the numerals "1942", while the inscription "Demjansk" is shown above the points. The whole is crowned by the national insignia behind a crenelated rampart.

Russian "auxiliaries" and others subordinated to the Wehrmacht may be recipients of this decoration. (Plate V-37)

XII. KUBAN SHIELD (Kubanschild)

This shield was instituted by Hitler on 20 September 1943 in commemoration of the defensive battles on the Kuban bridgehead on the Crimean peninsula. It may be awarded to all military personnel, as well as to others subordinated to the Wehrmacht who since 1 February 1943 played an honorable part in the land, air, and sea-battles on the Kuban bridgehead. The shield is worn on the left upper sleeve of the uniform. The following prerequisites govern the award:

a) Participation in a main engagement, or
b) Wounding, or
c) A minimum of 60 days' uninterrupted service on the bridgehead

The awards are made in the name of the Führer by Generalfeldmarschall von Kleist. (No illustration or description available)

XIII. GUERILLA-WARFARE MEDAL (Bandenkampf-Abzeichen)

Hitler founded this badge on 30 January 1944 in recognition of the bravery displayed by members of the Armed Forces in their fight, behind the Eastern Front and in the mountain fastnesses of the Balkans, against the ever-increasing activities of partisan bands. All members of the Armed Forces who participated for a certain minimum number of days in the fight against the partisans, may become recipients of this badge. Personnel of foreign volunteer organizations engaged in combat against these bands are also eligible. It is issued in the following three grades:

a) 1st class in bronze (lowest grade) ..... after 20 combat days
b) 2nd class in silver..... " 50 "
c) 3rd class in gold..... " 100 "

Crews of single aircraft or of aircraft formations employed in the fight against partisan bands may be awarded the medal under the following conditions:

1) The 1st class medal.....after 30 combat days
2) The 2nd class medal..... " 75 "
3) The 3rd class medal..... " 150 "

Each successfully accomplished flying mission, while under partisan fire, is counted as a combat day. Each enemy aircraft shot down in combat counts for three combat days.

The Guerilla-Warfare Medal, worn on the left breast of the blouse, consists of an oval oak-leaf wreath with a massive vertical staff running through the center; near the top of this staff appears the swastika, while two two-headed snakes are curled around the lower end. (Plate V-39)

XIV. AFRICA ARMBAND (Ärmelband Afrika)

This sleeve-insignia, inaugurated on 15 January 1943, consists of a khaki-colored armband of camel-hair cloth with silver borders, and bears the inscription "Afrika", flanked on each side by a palm leaf. It is worn on the lower right sleeve of the uniform. All members of the Armed Forces are eligible if they have fulfilled at least one of the following requirements:

a) A minimum of 6 months' honorable service in Africa
b) Wounding while serving in Africa
c) Illness contracted on the African battlefield, and resulting in total or partial physical disability

This armband is issued in a dark-blue color for members of the Luftwaffe.

An earlier pattern, green with silver edging and the inscription "Afrikakorps" has been recalled and superseded by the Africa Armband. (Plate V-40)

XV. GERMAN-ITALIAN COMMEMORATION MEDAL (Deutsch-Italienische Erinnerungsmedaille)

This round bronze medal was awarded to members of both the German and Italian Armed Forces who participated in the joint campaigns in North Africa. Its face is adorned by a triumphal arch flanked on the right side by a swastika, and on the left side by the Italian fasces; a true lovers' knot is displayed below the arch. The bilingual inscription "Campagna Italo-Tedesca in Africa - - - Italienisch-Deutscher Feldzug in Afrika" surrounds the medal. The reverse side portrays two knights in medieval armor struggling with a crocodile. The ribbon is black-white-red-white-green, thus combining the German and Italian national colors.

A recent order prohibits the wearing of this medal by members of the German Armed Forces. (Plate V-41)

D. NAZI PARTY DECORATIONS

I. NATIONAL SOCIALIST ORDER OF BLOOD OF 9 NOVEMBER 1923 (National-Sozialistisches Blutorden vom 9 November 1923)

This medal was originally struck at Hitler's command in 1933, and was awarded to all those who took part with him in the abortive "putsch" in München on 8-9 November 1923. It was later given a wider distribution and was awarded to many Nazi Party members who had taken part in the street-fighting of the pre-1933 years. The order is regarded with the highest respect in the Party.

The medal is circular in shape, and its face portrays an eagle grasping a laurel wreath by its talons, within which is inscribed the date "9. Nov." Immediately below the eagle's beak is found the inscription "München 1923-1933". The reverse side bears a facade of three arches surmounted by a swastika from which rays emenate, and the inscription "Und Ihr Habt Doch Gesiegt". The ribbon is red in center with narrow white-black stripes on either side. It is worn on the right breast of the Nazi Party uniform. When worn on military blouses, the ribbon is placed above the left breast pocket in line with any other decoration that may have been awarded. The ribbon alone may be worn from the second-from-top buttonhole. There are several ways of wearing this decoration. Members of the Luftwaffe may wear the ribbon in the form of a half-cockade on the right breast of the flying blouse, directly below the swastika of the national insignia. (Plate VI-42-43-44-45)

II. INSIGNIA OF HONOR FOR THE FIRST 100,000 MEMBERS (Ehrenzeichen für Mitglieder unter Nummer 100 000)

This party badge is generally referred to as the "Gold Party Badge" (Das Goldene Parteiabzeichen). As its title implies, this high Party decoration may be worn only by those charter members of the Party whose serial numbers are below 100,000 and who have belonged to the Party uninterruptedly since its foundation.

The badge is circular in shape and is worn on the left side of the blouse or civilian jacket. It consists of a swastika around which is the inscription "National-Sozialistische D A P", the whole surrounded by a golden wreath of laurel leaves. The membership number is found inscribed on the reverse side. (Plate VI-46)

III. COBURG BADGE (Coburger Abzeichen)

This Party badge was issued to all members who participated in the famous march on Coburg in October 1922, known as "Deutscher Tag in Coburg". It was the first NSDAP expedition from its home at München (erster Vorstoss der Partei von München nach Nord-Bayern). The meeting was characterized by

bloody street-fighting, in which 800 S A men supressed the "red terror". Among the participants were Hitler and some of his early lieutenants. (Plate VII-47)

IV. NÜRNBERG PARTY CONVENTION BADGE OF 1929 (Nürnberger Parteitags-abzeichen von 1929)

This gold badge was founded to commemorate one of the bloodiest Party conventions in Nazi history, held at Nürnberg in 1929. All participants of this meeting were decorated with this badge. It comes in the form of a shield in the center of which reposes an eagle perched atop a steel-helmet embossed with a swastika. The shield bears the following inscription: "Nürnberg 1914-1919 NSDAP - - Parteitag 1929". (Plate VII-48)

V. BADGE OF THE SA-CONVENTION AT BRAUNSCHWEIG OF 1931 (Abzeichen vom SA-Treffen Braunschweig 1931)

This silver badge was struck to commemorate the Party convention held at Braunschweig on 17-18 October 1931, when nearly 100,000 SA and SS-men, mainly of the "SA-Gruppe Nord", assembled. At this convention, which followed closely on the heels of the "Stennes putsch", Hitler assured himself of the loyalty of the SA. 24 new "Standarten" were founded, and the "Motor-SA" made its first public appearance.

The badge consists of an oval wreath of oak leaves having a bow at the bottom. Within the wreath is found the inscription "SA-Treffen Braunschweig 17/18 Oktober 1931". The wreath is surmounted by the national insignia. (Plate VII-49)

VI. GOLD HITLER-YOUTH BADGE (Goldenes HJ-Abzeichen)

This badge of honor was founded by Baldur von Schirach, the "Reichs-jugendführer" on 18 August 1934. It was awarded to all those Hitler-Youth members of the Party, who could pride themselves of uninterrupted membership in the Party at the historical Reich Youth meeting of 2 October 1932. It is also known as "HJ-Ehrenzeichen" (Hitler-Youth Badge of Honor).

It is designed in the shape of a diamond having a gold outer frame, and a black swastika in the center. The designs around the swastika are red and white. (Plate VII-50)

VII. NAZI PARTY SERVICE BADGES (NSDAP Dienstauszeichnungen)

These badges were founded by Hitler in April 1939, and are awarded to members who served the Party faithfully for at least 10 years. There are three classes of this decoration:

a) Class 1, in gold, for 25 years' service
b) Class 2, in silver, for 15 years' service
c) Class 3, in bronze, for 10 years' service

The badge for all classes is in the shape of a cross, adorned between the arms with rays. In the center of the cross reposes the national insignia within a round wreath of oak leaves. The class 2 and 3 badges are worn with a ribbon, while the class 1 medal is worn pinned to the breast without a ribbon. The ribbon of the class 3 badge is brown with narrow stripes of white-brown-white in the center and on both sides. The class 2 badge is suspended from a narrower ribbon of blue with narrow stripes of white-blue-white on the sides. The cross of the class 1 medal is white, edged with gold, while the rays and the national insignia are gold. The cross of the class 2 medal is blue, edged with silver, while the rays and national insignia are silver. The class 3 badge is bronze. (Plate VII-52-53-54)

Holders of these distinctions may in place of the medals wear a "Miniature Ribbon of Honor", consisting of a broad center-stripe of red, with narrower stripes of white-gold-white-red on either side. The national insignia surrounded by a wreath of oak leaves is fastened to the center-stripe. (Plate VII-51)

VII. DISTRICT INSIGNIA OF HONOR OF THE NAZI PARTY (Gau-Ehrenzeichen der NSDAP)

The individual districts (Gauen) of the Nazi Party may award badges of honor of their own to members who distinguish themselves by loyalty to the Party and who diligently foster the Nazi ideology. These badges are also known as "Die Traditions-Gauabzeichen". (Plate VIII-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64)

E. MISCELLANEOUS DECORATIONS

I. MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVERS' BADGE OF MERIT (Kraftfahrbewährungsabzeichen)

This award was instituted on 23 October 1942, as a token of recognition for the war service of drivers of motor vehicles who have given a particularly good account of themselves. This badge is eligible to all military motor vehicle drivers who have especially distinguished themselves in driving vehicles under difficult circumstances in certain theaters of war, and in caring faithfully for the vehicles entrusted to them.

The following prerequisites are necessary for the award:

a) Service as a motor vehicle driver in the former territories of Jugo-Slavia and Greece, in Bulgaria and Rumania, in the zone East of the Russian 1940 boundary, in Finland, Norway (North of the Artic circle), in Lappland, or in Africa.

b) The trips must have been executed under especially difficult conditions, e.g. under fire, especially large distances covered, severe weather conditions, and bad road, shelter and repair conditions.

The award may be given to:

Motorcycle dispatch riders	after 30	operational	days
Drivers of combat vehicles.....	" 120	"	"
Drivers of motor vehicles of the transport service.....	" 150	"	"
Drivers of motor vehicles of the L of C troops	" 165	"	"
Drivers of all other services	" 185	"	"

The award may be recalled if subsequently the driver is guilty of neglecting his vehicle, of violating the speed limit, or of causing accident through carelessness. It may also be awarded to civilian drivers subordinated to the Wehrmacht, if they have met the above prerequisites.

The badge consists of a steering wheel set in a wreath of laurel, and is worn on the lower part of the left sleeve. It may be awarded in three grades: bronze, silver and gold. (Plate IX-65)

II. MARKSMANSHIP AWARDS (Schützenauszeichnungen)

These insignia, awarded to members of the Army for proficiency in shooting, consist of a braided cord of dull aluminum color and are worn fastened from the right shoulder-strap to the top-pocket button of the blouse of the parade, walking-out and guard uniform. A light metal shield is attached to the shoulder end of the cord and at the lower end acorns are added to indicate the degree of the award. These awards come in the following 12 grades:

Grades 1-4: The shield is aluminum colored and bears two crossed swords within a center-shield, the whole surrounded by a narrow oak-leaf wreath and crowned by the German eagle and swastika. Grade 1 is not adorned with an acorn and is the lowest grade. Grade 2 has one acorn, while grades 3 and 4 have two and three acorns, respectively. The acorns for all 4 grades are aluminum colored.

Grades 5-8: The shield for these grades is also aluminum colored and of the identical design; the oak-leaf wreath, however, is somewhat wider. The acorns are also aluminum colored, and are added in the same order, i.e. grade 5 no acorn, grade 6 one acorn etc.

Grades 9-12: The shield is identical with that of group 5-8; its color, however, is gold. As in the case of the two other groups, the addition of an acorn denotes a higher grade award. The color of the acorns for this group is gold.

Personnel of artillery units use miniature shells in place of the acorns.

The replica of a tank replaces the crossed swords on the shield for personnel of Panzer units.

The Air Force issues similar cords to its members for proficiency in shooting. However, in place of the crossed swords and national insignia, the center-shield contains the Air Force eagle and swastika. The cord is grey-blue silk decorated with silver for grades 1-4, silver decorated with grey-blue for grades 5-8, and grey-blue decorated with gold for grades 9-12. The acorns match the color of the shield.

Air Force antiaircraft personnel use miniature shells in place of acorns. (Plate IX-66-67-68-69)

III. LONGEVITY MEDALS (Dienstauszeichnungen)

Hitler founded these longevity decorations for the Armed Forces on 16 March 1936. These medals are tokens of reward for long and faithful service. They may be awarded in the following grades:

a) Class 4 (lowest grade) ..... after 4 years' honorable service
b) Class 3 ..... " 12 " " "
c) Class 2 ..... " 18 " " "
d) Class 1 ..... " 25 " " "
e) Class 1 with Oak Leaves ..... " 40 " " "

These longevity decorations are worn on a cornflower-blue ribbon. The class 3 and 4 badges are circular in shape, the former light bronze, and the latter dull-silver. On the face of both is found a raised German eagle with swastika and the inscription "Treue Dienste in der Wehrmacht" (Faithful Services in the Wehrmacht). The reverse bears, respectively the numerals "12"

or "4", surrounded by an oak-leaf wreath. The class 2 medal comes in the shape of a Maltese cross, is unpolished and has bevelled edges. Its color is silver, and its center-piece bears the national insignia. The class 1 medal is larger than the latter, is of similar design and has a polished surface. Its color is gold. The reverse sides of these two decorations bear the numerals "18" and "25", respectively.

The cornflower-blue ribbon of the medal is adorned with a minature national insignia of the respective branch of the Armed Forces. The color of this national insignia matches that of the medal. These decorations are worn suspended from the medal bar on the left breast. They may also be worn in the shape of a bar of blue ribbon, on which is embossed the national insignia. (Plate IX-70-71-72-73-74-75)

IV. SOCIAL SERVICE BADGE (Ehrenzeichen für deutsche Volkspflege)

Founded on 1 May 1939, this badge is awarded for services rendered in the field of social welfare, Red Cross work, life-saving, efforts on behalf of the Winter Help Fund (Winterhilfswerk), care of the sick and wounded etc. It supersedes the earlier decoration issued by the German Red Cross. This badge embraces four classes:

a) Social Service Badge 1st class (highest grade)
b) " " " 2nd class
c) " " " 3rd class
d) Social Service Medal (Medaille)

In exceptional cases Hitler may award the 1st class order with a star. The ribbon for all classes is red, edged with white. The decoration is in the form of a gilt-edged, white-enameled cross having the national insignia in its center. The class 1 badge has a diameter of 52 mm, and is suspended from the neck on 65-mm wide ribbon. The class 2 badge is worn, without a ribbon, pinned to the breast. It has the same dimensions as class 1. Class 3 badge has a diameter of 40 mm and is worn on the left breast from a 30-mm wide ribbon. The class 4 medal, known as "Medaille für deutsche Volkspflege" is round in shape with a diameter of 38 mm. Its face bears the image of the cross of the other three classes, while on the reverse side is found the inscription "Für deutsche Volkspflege". This medal is worn on a 30-mm wide ribbon of the same colors from the left breast.

All classes of this decoration may be awarded to civilians and soldiers alike, but not to soldiers whose normal duties lie in one of the fields named above. Since March 1942, the 3rd and 4th class badges may be awarded with swords to non-military male and female hospital personnel stationed in the Eastern theater of operations.

As in the case of other decorations, the ribbon alone may be worn fastened to the medal bar or to the blouse. (Plate X-76-77-78)

V. GERMAN DEFENSE-WALL MEDAL (Deutsches Schutzwall-Ehrenzeichen)

This badge was instituted on 2 August 1939, and is awarded to those who cooperated in the erection of fortifications for the defense of Germany. The face of this medal is adorned with a bunker within an oval wreath of oak leaves; above the bunker are a crossed spade and sword surmounted by the national emblem. The reverse side bears the inscription "Für Arbeit zum Schutze Deutschlands". The ribbon is brown in center with narrower stripes of white and brown on both sides. It may be awarded to those members of the Armed Forces and male employees and civilians subordinated to it who were, between 15 June 1938 and 31 March 1939, employed in the construction of, or were stationed in the defense of German fortifications. Members of the Armed Forces already possessing the Sudeten or Memel Commemoration Medals are not eligible to receive the German Defense-Wall Medal. (Plate X-79-80)

VI. AIR-DEFENSE MEDAL (Luftschutz-Ehrenzeichen)

Hitler founded this badge of honor on 30 January 1938 to reward services rendered in the field of air defense of Germany. It is awarded in the following two grades:

a) 2nd grade (lower grade) eligible to those who since 30 January 1933 have rendered special services in the field of aerial defense of the Reich.

b) 1st grade awarded to those who have made outstanding contributions to the promotion of the air defense of Germany.

The 2nd grade badge is round in shape and of a dull-silver color. Its center bears a swastika within the circular inscription "Für Verdienste im Luftschutz", the whole surrounded by a wreath of oak leaves. The reverse shows the numerals "1938", also within an oak-leaf wreath. The 1st grade medal comes in the shape of a gold-colored cross, in the center of which reposes a raised swastika within the same circular inscription.

The ribbon for both medals is identical: lilac in center with black-white-red stripes on both sides. This decoration is worn on the left breast, either from the buttonhole, or from the medal bar. The recipients may be soldiers, Wehrmacht officials, civilians or other workers, with at least four years activity to their credit in the field of air defense. The time limitation does not apply to soldiers or civilians employed in air-defense research during the war. (Plate X-81-82)

VII. AWARDS FOR LIFE-SAVING (Belohnung von Rettunfstaten)

Feats of life-saving may be rewarded by three separate awards, depending upon the degree of risk incurred:

1. Life-Saving Medal with Ribbon (Rettungsmedaille am Bande)

This medal is awarded for the successful saving of a life at extreme risk to the rescuer. It is circular in shape, and its face bears the inscription "Für Rettung aus Gefahr" within an oak-leaf wreath. The reverse side is embossed with the German eagle. It is worn on the left breast suspended from a ribbon. (Plate X-83-84)

2. Commemoration Medal for Rescue from Danger (Erinnerungsmedaille für Rettung aus Gefahr)

The medal, a lesser award for life-saving is conferred upon those who accomplished successful rescues under less dangerous circumstances. It is not to be worn on the uniform or civilian clothing. (No illustration)

3. Public Citation (Öffentliche Belobigung)

If the degree of risk involved in the saving of a life is not considerable, the rescuer may be honored by a public citation, accompanied in some cases by a monetary award.

All members of the Armed Forces, semi-military and Party organizations, as well as civilians may be recipients of the above life-saving awards.

VIII. GERMAN EAGLE ORDER OF MERIT.(Verdienstorden vom Deutschen Adler)

This decoration was originally founded by Hitler on 1 May 1937 for the express purpose of honoring distinguished foreign civil and military personages for services rendered on behalf of the Reich. The provisions of the charter were amended in April 1939. Since that date it may be awarded with swords to military personnel of allied or friendly nations who distinguished themselves on the battlefield. The decoration without sword is awarded for meritorious services in connection with the war effort, but not at the front.

The German Eagle Order of Merit embraces the following six grades:

a) Great Cross (Grosskreuz) (highest grade)
b) Service of Merit Cross with Star (Verdienstkreuz mit Stern)
c) " " " " 1st class
d) " " " " 2nd class
e) " " " " 3rd class
f) German Service of Merit Medal (Deutsche Verdienstmedaille)

1. The Great Cross has a diameter of 60 mm and is worn in the center of a 100-mm wide ribbon stretching from the right shoulder to the left hip. It

is accompanied by an eight-pointed silver star of rays, having a diameter of 80 mm. In the center of the star reposes the 45-mm diameter cross of the Order. This star is worn pinned to the left breast.

2. The Service of Merit Cross with Star is identical with the 1st class cross, described below. However, it is accompanied by a six-pointed silver star of rays, having a diameter of 75 mm. As above, in the center of the star reposes the 45-mm diameter cross of the Order. It too is worn on the left breast.

3. The Service of Merit Cross 1st class has a diameter of 50 mm, and it is worn suspended from the neck by a 45-mm wide ribbon.

4. The Service of Merit Cross 2nd class is of the same diameter as that of the 2nd class cross, but is worn without a ribbon pinned to the breast.

5. The Service of Merit Cross 3rd class has a diameter of 45 mm, and is worn suspended from the breast on a 40-mm wide ribbon.

6. The Service of Merit Medal is a round silver medal with a 38-mm diameter. Its face bears the cross of the Order, while on the reverse is found the inscription "Deutsche Verdienstmedaille". It is worn suspended from the breast on 37-mm wide ribbon.

The ribbon for all classes of the Order is identical: red in center with narrow white-black-white stripes on both sides. (Plate XI-85-90)

IX. CROSS OF HONOR OF THE WORLD WAR (Ehrenkreuz des Weltkrieges)

Founded by Hitler on 13 July 1934, this commemoration medal has been awarded to all those who participated in the World War. There are three types of this decoration:

a) "Frontkämpferkreuz" for those who fought in the front lines
b) "Kriegsteilnehmerkreuz" for those who served behind the front
c) "Kriegshinterbliebenenkreuz" for the next of kin of the fallen

All three are of the same design, i.e. in the shape of a cross with a circular oak-leaf wreath in the center, within which is found the inscription "1914-1918". The "Frontkämpferkreuz" is adorned with two crossed swords. All three crosses are worn suspended from a ribbon on the left breast. The ribbon for the "Frontkämpferkreuz" and the "Kriegsteilnehmerkreuz" is red in center with stripes of black-white-black on both sides. That of the "Kriegshinterbliebenenkreuz" is red in center with stripes of white-black-white on either side. The color of the first two is bronze, while that of third is black. (Plate XI-91-92)

X. SPORTS BADGES OF HONOR (Sportehrenzeichen)

There are a great number of insignia of distinction that may be awarded for excellence in the field of sports. Some of the best-known of these are listed below.

1. SA-Military Badge (SA-Wehrabzeichen)

It was formerly called the "SA-Sportabzeichen" (SA-Sports Medal). This sports badge is awarded to members of the SA (Sturmabteilung) for accomplishments in sports. It may be awarded in bronze, silver, or gold.

The badge in bronze is awarded to those who have passed the prescribed proficiency tests. The silver badge is eligible to those who successfully passed the refresher tests, after possessing the badge in bronze for at least five years, and who have reached the age of 35. The badge in gold is awarded to those who have successfully passed the prescribed refresher tests after possessing the silver badge for at least six years, and who have reached the age of 40.

The SA-Military Badge comes in the shape of a wide wreath of oak leaves within which reposes a large swastika. A sword pointing upwards is superimposed through the center. It is worn without a ribbon pinned to the left breast. (Plate XII-93)

2. German Reich Sports Badge (Deutsches Reichssportabzeichen)

This badge is also referred to as "Deutsches Reichauszeichnung für Leibesübungen". It may be awarded in bronze (lowest grade), silver, and gold. The grade of the award depends upon the excellence attained. This badge is in the shape of an oval oak-leaf wreath with a bow at the lower end. Within are inscribed the letters "DRL" (Deutscher Reichsbund für Leibesübungen). This badge is also worn without a ribbon on the left side of the blouse. (Plate XII-94)

3. German Olympia Awards (Deutsche Olympia-Auszeichnungen)

On the occasion of the IX Olympiade at Berlin in 1936, Hitler founded the German Olympia Badge of Honor (Deutsches Olympia Ehrenzeichen). This decoration is awarded in two classes. The class 1 decoration is gold, and is worn suspended from the neck by a broad ribbon. The class 2 badge is silver and is worn on a narrower ribbon of the same colors suspended from the left breast. (Plate XII-97)

In addition there is the German Olympia Commemoration Medal (Deutsche Olympia-Erinnerungsmedaille). The face of this medal carries the replica

of the German Olympia Badge of Honor, while on the reverse is found the inscription "Fur verdienstvolle Mitarbeit bei den Olympischen Spielen 1936". (Plate XII-95-96)

4. German Motor Sports Badge (Deutsches Motorsportabzeichen)

This badge is also known as the "NSKK-Sportabzeichen". It was founded by Hitler in February 1938 and is eligible to members of the NSKK and the DKK (Deutsches Kraftfahrkorps) for accomplishments in the field of sports. It consists of a large swastika enclosed within a round wreath of oak leaves. A large German eagle clutching a motor car tyre is superimposed on the swastika. (Plate XII-98)

Other well-known sports badges are:

German Horseman's Badge (Deutsches Reiterabzeichen) (Plate XII-99)

Hitler-Youth Proficiency Badge (HJ-Leistungsabzeichen) (Plate XIII-100)

German-Youth Proficiency Badge (DJ-Leistungsabzeichen) (Plate XIII-101)

Hitler-Youth Leader Sports Badge (HJ-Führersportsabzeichen) (Plate XIII-102)

German-Girls-Society Proficiency Badge (BDM-Leistungsabzeichen) (Plate XIII-103)

Hitler-Youth Badge for Sharpshooters (HJ-Schiessauszeichnung für Scharfschützen (Plate XIII-104)

Hitler-Youth Badge for Riflemen (HJ-Schiessauszeichnung für Schützen) (Plate XIII-105)

The sports badges listed below are less prominent and are not illustrated. The original German designations are given only.

Reichsjugendsportabzeichen

Jungfliegersportabzeichen

Deutsches Fahrerabzeichen

Deutsches Jugendreitabzeichen

Only two sports medals may be worn at one time.

XI. REICH LABOR SERVICE BADGES OF MERIT (RAD-Dienstauszeichnungen)

These badges are issued to members of the Reich Labor Service (Reichsarbeitsdienst) in recognition of years of honorable service. They are issued in the following four grades:

a) 1st class, in gold, for 25 years' service
b) 2nd class, in silver, for 18 years' service
c) 3rd class, in silver, for 12 years' service
d) 4th class, in bronze, for 4 years' service

All classes are of the same oval design. On the face is shown the special insignia of the RAD, while on the reverse is found the inscription "Für treue Dienste im Reichsarbeitsdienst". Female members are also eligible to receive these badges. However, a large swastika replaces the spade on the face of the medal. (Plate XIII-106-107-108)

In addition, there is the Labor Service Badge of Honor of 1932 (Ehrenzeichen der Angehörigen des NSAD von 1932) issued to the original members of the NSAD (Nazi Labor Service) in 1932, the predecessor of the present RAD. (Plate XIV-109)

XII. POLICE SERVICE BADGES OF MERIT (Polizei-Dienstauszeichnungen)

These badges are awarded to members of the police for long and honorable service. They are issued in the following three grades:

a) 1st class, in gold, for 25 years' service
b) 2nd class, in silver, for 18 years' service
c) 3rd class, in silver, for 8 years' service

The 1st and 2nd class badges are in the design of a cross, in the center of which is superimposed the police insignia (the national insignia within an oval wreath of oak leaves); the reverse bears the inscription "Für treue Dienste in der Polizei". The 3rd class badge is a circular medal, having the police insignia embossed on its face, while the inscription on the reverse is identical. (Plate XIV-110-111-112)

XIII. CUSTOMS SERVICE BADGE OF HONOR (Zollgrenzschutz-Ehrenzeichen)

This decoration is awarded to personnel of the border customs service (Reichszollgrenzschutzdienst). It was founded by Hitler in February 1939. This badge, awarded for faithful service, comes in the shape of a cross, in the center of which is superimposed the emblem of the customs service: the national insignia surrounded by an oak-leaf wreath that is open at the top. It is worn suspended from a ribbon which is adorned with a miniature insignia of the service. (Plate XIV-113)

XIV. FIREMEN'S BADGE OF HONOR (Feuerwehr-Ehrenzeichen)

The Fireman's Badge of Honor, awarded to firemen for long and honorable service, was founded by Hitler in January 1938. It is issued in the following two grades: a) 1st class, in gold, b) 2nd class, in silver.
The badge is in the form of a cross with flame designs adorning all four arms. A swastika reposes in the center of the cross. The circular inscription on the face of the badge reads: "Für Verdienste im Feuerlöschwesen". (Plate XIV-114)

XV. MINERS' BADGE OF HONOR (Grubenwehr-Ehrenzeichen)

Founded simultaneously with the Firemen's Badge of Honor (above), this award is given to miners for long and faithful service. It is a round silver medal. Its face is adorned with two crossed short-handled picks, upon which is superimposed the national insignia. On the reverse side is found the inscription "Für Verdienste im Grubenwesen" within an oak-leaf wreath. (Plate XIV-115-116)

XVI. FAITHFUL SERVICE MEDALS (Treudienst-Ehrenzeichen)

Founded by Hitler in January 1938, these medals are awarded for long years of faithful service to civilians in the employ of the public services, and in some cases, in private industry. Eligible are: officials, employees and laborers, who have completed 25 or 40 years' of faithful service. Employees of private concerns are also eligible after 50 years' service. The 2nd class badge is awarded after 25 years' service, while 40 years' service is required for the 1st class badge. Employees of private concerns will receive a special class of this medal after 50 years' of service.

The Faithful Service Medal comes in the form of a cross that has in its center a swastika surrounded by a large wreath of oak-leaves. The special class of this badge has the numerals "50" superimposed at the top. On the reverse of the badges is found the inscription "Für treue Dienste". The color of the 2nd class medal is silver, while that of the first class is gold. All classes are worn on the left breast suspended from a cornflower-blue ribbon. (Plate XV-117-118-119)

XVII. GERMAN NATIONAL PRIZE FOR ART AND SCIENCE (Deutscher National-preis für Kunst und Wissenschaft)

This elaborate decoration was founded on 30 January 1937 as a German national medal of honor for the reward of accomplishments in the field of art and science. It is known as the German "Nobel Prize". The decoration may be awarded with a star, to be worn on the breast, or with a shoulder-ribbon and rosette (Schulterband mit Rosette). This ribbon has a broad center stripe, edged with narrow stripes of white and red. (Plate XV-120-121-122)

XVIII. DR. FRITZ TODT PRIZE (Dr. Fritz-Todt-Preis)

This decoration was founded in honor of the late Dr. Fritz Todt. It is

awarded for accomplishments in the field of research in chemistry, biology, medicine, technical improvements of manufacturing processes, improvements of weapons etc. The order has several classes, including the Honor-Pin (Ehrennadel). (Plate XV-123)

XIX. GERMAN MOTHERS' CROSS OF HONOR (Ehrenkreuz der deutschen Mutter)

Hitler founded this medal late in 1938 to honor mothers who bore four or more children. It was distributed for the first time on "Mothers' Day" 21 May 1939. It may be awarded in the following three grades:

a) Grade 3, in bronze, (lowest grade) for mothers of 4 or 5 children
b) Grade 2, in silver, for mothers of 6 or 7 children
c) Grade 3, in gold, for mothers of 8 or more children

The decoration is in the shape of a Christian cross embossed in center with a swastika and adorned between the arms by rays. It is worn suspended from the neck by a narrow ribbon. (Plate XV-124)

F. MEDALS OF HISTORICAL INTEREST

I. MEDALS OF THE PRE-WORLD WAR AND WORLD WAR PERIOD

1. Blücher Star (Blücherstern)

This decoration, a special form of the Iron Cross, was also founded in 1813. It was awarded with the Great Cross of the Iron Cross. This highest of decorations consists of a star of golden rays, in the center of which reposes the Iron Cross. The year "1813" or "1914", respectively, is inscribed at the bottom of the cross. Since its foundation, it has been awarded only twice. Prince Blücher received it first in 1815 for his victory at Belle-Alliance. Its second holder is Fieldmarshal von Hindenburg for his accomplishments during the World War. It is worn without a ribbon fastened to the breast. (Plate XVI-125)

2. Pour Le Merite

This decoration is older than the Iron Cross, having been instituted in 1740 by Frederick the Great. Originally it was eligible not only to soldiers for bravery on the battlefield, but also to statesmen, scientists, etc. for accomplishments not connected with war. In January 1810, King Friedrich Wilhelm decreed that the award of this decoration be confined to soldiers only for acts of extraordinary bravery on the battlefield. Only officers were eligible to receive it. There are four grades of this decoration:

a) Pour Le Merite (lowest grade)
b) Pour Le Merite with Oak Leaves
c) Great Cross
d) Great Cross with Oak Leaves

The Pour Le Merite (lowest grade) is worn fastened to the breast without a ribbon. The Pour Le Merite with Oak Leaves is suspended from the neck by a broad white-black-white ribbon having very narrow edges. The other two grades are also suspended from the neck, and are accompanied by a four-pointed Golden Star, worn on the breast. The possession of a lower grade of the order was prerequisite to the award of the next higher grade. The Great Cross and Star were not awarded during the war of 1914-18. However, the awards of the first two grades of the order totalled 687, including 75 to Air Force personnel and 52 to U-boat captains. (Plate XVI-126-127)

3. House Order of Hohenzollern (Hausorden von Hohenzollern)

This decoration was founded by King Friedrich Wilhelm IV of Prussia in the year of 1851. It is designed in the shape of a Maltese cross with a centerpiece containing the Prussian eagle, around which is found the circular inscription "vom Fels zum Meer". The cross is topped by a large crown. The ribbon

is white with three vertical black stripes. The order has four classes and the awards were made with or without swords. It has seldom been awarded in peacetime. During the World War it was bestowed for repeated acts of valor in face of the enemy to those already possessed the Iron Cross 1st class. The number of awards in this war totalled 8291. (Plate XVI-128)

4. Order of the Crown (Kronenorden)

This is also a Prussian order and was founded in 1861 by King Wilhelm I. in commemoration of his coronation. The decoration is in the shape of a cross with the Prussian crown in center. It has four classes and may be awarded with swords. The ribbon of the order is cornflower-blue. (Plate XVI-129)

5. Order of the Red Eagle (Roter Adler Orden)

Another distinguished Prussian order, founded in 1705. It is in the shape of an eight-pointed cross having a red eagle in its center. The order has four classes. The color of the cross for the first three classes is gold, while that of the fourth class is silver. There is also a Great Cross which is accompanied by an eight-pointed breast-star. This decoration has also been awarded with swords for deeds of valor against the enemy. (Plate XVI-130)

6. Military Service of Merit Cross (Militärverdienstkreuz)

This is another well-known Prussian decoration. It comes in the form of cross, and in its center are found the letters "WR" surmounted by the Prussian crown. 1750 of these crosses have been distributed during the World War for bravery at the front. (Plate XVI-131)

7. Red Cross Medal (Rote-Kreuz-Medaille)

Founded by Wilhelm II in 1898 as a Prussian medal of honor for men and women who were especially active on behalf of the Red Cross. It was awarded in three classes: bronze, silver, and gold. The shape of the medal is circular, and its face shows the red cross its arms surmounted by crowns. Between the arms are found the letters "WRAV" (Wilhelm Rex Auguste Viktoria). The two lower classes are worn from the button hole on a red ribbon, having black-white edges, while the first class medal is worn fastened to the breast. In 1918 this medal was superseded by the "German Red Cross" (Deutsches Rotes Kreuz). This is a white cross with gilt edges. In the center of this cross reposes the red cross, surrounded by the circular inscription "Deutsches Rotes Kreuz". The ribbon is red with white edges. This decoration has now been replaced by the "Social Service Badge" (Ehrenzeichen für deutsche Volkspflege) (see page 23) (Plate XVI-132)

8. Cross of Merit for Aid in the War Effort (Verdienstkreuz für Kriegshilfe)

This Prussian badge is also referred to as the "Preussisches Hilfsdienstkreuz". The decoration is considered as the Iron Cross of the home front, and was awarded during the World War to men and women who distinguished themselves by their war efforts at home. It is an eight-pointed cross with a circular center-piece showing the inscription "WR", surmounted by the Prussian crown. It is worn on a ribbon of six stripes of black and white. (Plate XVI-133)

II. DECORATIONS OF THE BALTIC AND SILESIAN CAMPAIGNS OF 1919/20

Of the many decorations created in these campaigns, only three received official sanction of the Reich government and only these are permitted to be worn.

1. Baltic Cross (Baltenkreuz)

This cross was founded in the spring of 1919 in recognition of the bravery displayed by members of the "Freikorps" volunteers fighting against the "bolsheviks" in the Baltic campaign of 1919-20. This decoration was issued in one class only and is worn suspended from the breast on a blue-white ribbon, or the ribbon alone may be worn. 20,000 of these crosses were distributed to officers and men who were under arms before 1 July 1919, and who served at least 3 months in a German formation fighting the "bolsheviks" in the Baltic states. (Plate XVII-134)

2. Silesian Badge of Merit (Schlesisches Bewährungsabzeichen)

This badge is generally referred to as the "Silesian Eagle" (Schlesischer Adler). It was founded to commemorate participation in the battles of the uprising in Upper Silesia in 1919-20. The badge was issued in two classes. A minimum of 3 months' of combat activity was required for the award of the 2nd class badge, while 6 months' participation in the battles was necessary for the award of the 1st class badge. The 2nd class badge is worn on a yellow-white ribbon, while the 1st class badge is worn fastened to the breast without a ribbon. (Plate XVII-135-136)

3. Roland of Bremen (Bremer Roland)

Also referred to as the "Iron Roland" (Eisemer Roland), this badge received official recognition of the Reich government in 1936. It was founded in 1919 by the mayor of the city of Bremen and awarded in the name of the city to members of the Gerstenberg Division who "liberated the city from the red yoke". It is in the form of an oval badge of black iron and portrays the historic statue of Roland at the city hall of Bremen. The circular inscription reads: "Freiheit ich will Euch offenbaren". (No illustration available)

III. INDIVIDUAL STATE DECORATIONS

In addition to the Prussian State decorations which during the war of 1914-18 were for the first time awarded to others than Prussians, the other States and Free Cities comprising the Reich issued a great variety of badges for valor and service. Those listed below were officially recognized by the Reich Government and are permitted to be worn. They are frequently seen on the dress uniforms of the present-day German soldiers.

1. PRUSSIA

The most prominent of Prussian State medals have already been discussed above (F-I-1-8, pages 32-34). Mention must also be made of the following:

a) Centennial Medal (Centenarmedaille) (Plate XVII-137)

b) Prussian Military Service Badges (Preussische Dienstauszeichnungen)

These military service badges are issued in three classes. The class 1 badge is in the form of a cross with the crown of Prussia in its centre. The reverse bears the Roman numerals "XV", denoting fifteen years' service. The class 2 and 3 badges are circular in shape with the Prussian crown in the center surrounded by the inscription "Treu Dienste bei der Fahne". The reverse bears the Roman numerals "XII" or "IX", respectively. (Plate XVII-138-141)

c) Prussian Militia Badge (Preussische Landwehrauszeichnung) (Plate XVII-142)

2. SAXONY

a) Military Order of St. Heinrich (Militär-St.-Heinrichs-Orden) (Plate XVIII-143&145)

b) Commander's Cross (Kommandeurkreuz) (Plate XVIII-144)

c) Friedrich August Medal (Friedrich-August-Medaille) (Plate XVIII-146)

d) Bravery Medal of Saxony (Sächsische Tapferkeitsmedaille) (Not illustrated)

3. BAVARIA

a) Military Order Max Joseph (Militär-Max-Joseph-Orden) (Plate XVIII-147)

b) Military Medical Order (Militär-Sanitäts-Orden) (Plate XVIII-148)

c) Bravery Medal in Gold and Silver (Goldene und Silberne Tapferkeitsmedaille. (Plate XVIII-149-150)

d) Military Service Badges (Bayerische Dienstauszeichnungen) (Plate XVIII-151-XIX-152)

4. WÜRTTEMBERG

a) Military Service of Merit Cross (Militär-Verdienstkreuz) (Plate XIX-153)

b) Military Service of Merit Medal in Gold (Goldene Militär-Verdienstmedaille) (Plate XIX-154)

c) Military Service Badges (Württembergische Dienstauszeichnungen)

Issued in three classes. The class 1 badge comes in the shape of a cross with a center oak-leaf containing the crown of Württemberg. The reverse has the Roman numeral "XV", indicating 15 years' service. The class 2 and 3 badges are identical in design: circular medals with the crown in center surrounded by an oak-leaf wreath. The reverse sides bear the Roman numerals "XII" or "IX", respectively. (Plate XIX --- 155-156-157-158)

5. BADEN

a) Military Order of Merit Karl Friedrich (Militär-Karl-Friedrich-Verdienstorden) (Plate XIX-159)

b) Service of Merit Medal (Badische Verdienstmedaille) (Plate XIX-160)

c) Military Service Badges (Badische Dienstauszeichnungen) (Plate XX-161-162-163-164)

6. OTHERS

a) Hessen Bravery Medal (Hessische Tapferkeitsmedaille) (Plate XX-165)

b) Mecklenburg-Schwerin Service of Merit Cross (Mecklenburg-Schwerin-Verdienstkreuz) (Plate XX-166)

c) Lippe-Detmold Service of Merit Cross (Lippe-Detmold-Verdienstkreuz) (Plate XX-167)

d) Braunschweig Service of Merit Cross (Braunschweigisches-Verdienstkreuz) (Plate XX-168)

e) Oldenburg Friedrich August Cross (Oldenburger-Friedrich-August-Kreuz) (Plate XX-169)

f) Sachsen-Anhalt Service of Merit Cross (Sachsen-Anhalt-Verdienst-Kreuz) (Plate XX-170)

g) Hamburg Hansa Cross (Hamburger-Hanseaten-Kreuz) (Plate XXI-171)

h) Bremen Hansa Cross (Bremer-Hanseaten-Kreuz) (Plate XXI-172)

i) Lübeck Hansa Cross (Lübecker-Hanseaten-Kreuz) (Plate XXI-173)

The Hamburg, Bremen, and Lübeck Hansa Crosses were founded in 1915 by the senates of the three Hansa cities, and were awarded to officers and enlisted men alike for meritorious war service. They are in the shape of a cross of red color with silver edges. The circular center-piece encloses the emblem of the respective city. They are worn on the left breast suspended by a ribbon. The Bremen ribbon has eight red-white stripes; the Hamburg ribbon is red-white-red, while the Lübeck ribbon is red-white.

7. AUSTRIA

a) Military Order Maria Theresia (Militär-Marien-Theresien-Orden)

This order was founded in 1757, and is the equivalent of the Prussian "Pour-Le-Merite". It was awarded very sparingly and only officers were eligible. It is an eight-pointed white cross with the circular inscription in its center reading "Fortitudini". The order embraces three classes. All classes are worn on a red-white-red ribbon. (Plate XXI-174)

b) Bravery Medal (Tapferkeitsmedaille) (Plate XXI-175)

c) Commemoration Medal (Erinnerungsmedaille) (Plate XXI-176)

d) Military Service of Merit Cross (Militär-Verdienst-Kreuz) (Plate XXI-177)

e) Austrian Wound Badge (Oesterreichisches-Verwundetenabzeichen) (Plate XXI-178)

f) "Karl" Military Service of Merit Medal ("Karl"-Militär-Verdienst-Medaille) (Plate XXI-179)

g) Franz Joseph Bravery Medal (Franz-Joseph-Tapferkeits-medaille) (Plate XXII-180)

h) Karl Bravery Medal (Karl-Tapferkeitsmedaille) (Plate XXII-181)

i) Franz Joseph Service of Merit Cross (Franz-Joseph-Militär-Verdienstkreuz) (Plate XXII-182)

j) Karl Troop-Cross (Karl-Truppen-Kreuz) (Plate XXII-183)

8. NATIONS ALLIED TO GERMANY IN 1914-18

a) Hungarian Commemoration Medal (Ungarische Erinnerungsmedaille) (Plate XXII-184)

b) Bulgarian Commemoration Medal (Bulgarische Erinnerungsmedaille) (Plate XXII-185)

c) Turkish Half-Moon (Türkischer Halbmond) (Plate XXII-186)

G. SPECIAL AIR FORCE DECORATIONS

In addition to the decorations, listed above, available to the personnel of all three services, there are a number of badges of honor that are reserved exclusively for members of the German Air Force. The most prominent of these are listed and described below. Illustrations are furnished, wherever available.

I. WAR-FLIGHTS BAR GROUP OF DECORATIONS (Frontflug-Spangen)

These are elongated metal badges awarded to flying personnel of fighter, bomber, reconnaissance and transport aircraft for successful flights against the enemy. They may be granted in the following three grades:

a) In bronze (lowest grade), for 20 or more flights
b) In silver, for 60 or more flights
c) In gold, for 110 or more flights

All flights must have been undertaken against the enemy, and at least 30 kilometers behind the enemy lines. The lower grade bar is discarded upon the receipt of the next higher grade. These bars are worn above the left breast-pocket.

The various forms of War-Flights Bars are presented below.

1. War-Flights Bar for Fighter Personnel (Frontflugspange für Jäger)

Founded by Göring on 30 January 1941, this bar is awarded to personnel of fighter, intercepter and pursuit aircraft. It consists of a massive metal oak-leaf bar, containing in center a laurel wreath within which reposes a barbed arrow flanked on each side by a wing; beneath the arrow is a swastika. The arrow remains silver in all three grades. (Plate XXIII-187)

2. War-Flights Bar for Bomber Personnel (Frontflugspange für Kampfflieger)

Founded at the same time, this bar may be awarded to personnel of bomber and dive-bomber aircraft. It is identical in design with the bar for figher personnel, excepting that its center holds the replica of a bomb in place of the arrow, this bomb points down and has a tail and wings attached; underneath the bomb is a swastika. As in the case of the bar for fighters, the bomb in center remains silver in all three grades. (Plate XXIII-188)

3. War-Flights Bar for Reconnaissance Personnel (Frontflugspange für Aufklärer)

This bar was also instituted on 30 January 1941 as a token of distinction for personnel of reconnaissance, air-sea rescue and meteorological aircraft. It is, too, a massive oak-leaf bar, similar in design to the other two. However, it contains in center the head of an eagle, with a swastika immediately beneath it. This eagle-head remains in silver in all three grades. (Plate XXIII-189)

4. War-Flights Bar for Transport Personnel (Frontflugspange für Transportflieger)

This bar was inaugurated by Göring on 19 November 1941, and is awarded to personnel of transport and troop-carrying transport aircraft. It is similar in design to the others, but contains in its center the German Air Force eagle grasping a swastika by its talons. The eagle and swastika remain silver in all three grades. (Plate XXIII-190)

5. War-Flights Bar for Night-Fighter Personnel (Frontflugspange für Nachtjäger)

There is a special War-Flights Bar for Night-Fighter Personnel, awarded under the identical conditions as the badge for fighter personnel. It is of the same pattern, excepting that the laurel wreath surrounding the center-piece is black-lacquered. The arrow points up in the night fighter badge, and down in the bar for long-distance night-fighter personnel (Fernnachtjäger). (No illustration presented)

In the case of all of the above bars, flights of over four hours duration count as two flights. All bars have the following identical dimensions:

Overall-length of bar	75 mm
Diameter of laurel wreath.....	25 mm
Greatest width of oak-leaf branches	13 mm

6. Pendant to War-Flights Bars in Gold (Anhänger zur goldenen Frontflugspange)

Göring created this high Luftwaffe decoration on 26 June 1942 in recognition of especially distinguished feats in connection with flights against the enemy. It may be awarded to:

a) Personnel of fighter and transport aircraft ..... for more than 500 flights

b) Personnel of dive-bomber, pursuit and interceptor aircraft..... for more than 400 flights

c) Personnel of bomber, sea-air rescue and meterological aircraft ..... for more than 300 flights

d) Personnel of reconnaissance and night-fighter aircraft ..... for more than 250 flights

The pendant consists of a 12-mm center-star, adorned on both sides with three laurel leaves. The greatest width of the laurel leaves is 8 mm, while the overall-length of the pendant is about 35 mm. This pendant may only be awarded to the possessors of one of the War-Flights Bars in Gold. It is suspended from the bottom of the War-Flights Bar in Gold. (Plate XXIII-191)

II. GROUND-COMBAT BADGE OF THE AIR FORCE (Erdkampfabzeichen der Luftwaffe)

This badge was founded by Göring on 31 March 1942. All members of the Luftwaffe who distinguished themselves in ground combats are eligible. It is awarded to individualsonly for participation in the foremost lines of ground-combat operations on at least three different days. Combat operations are defined as storm-assaults (Sturmangriffe), and close-combat fighting by either infantry or artillery weapons. Counter attacks and reconnaissance in force are considered storm-assaults, provided they lead to close-combat. Personnel of heavy infantry-weapons and artillery weapons are eligible, if they support the attacking ground troops, and thereby make the penetration possible. Combat against aerial targets do not entitle the members of the Luftwaffe ground troops to this decoration. The Air Force Antiaircraft Badge (see below) has been created for this purpose. The mere presence in successful ground-combat operations does not earn for a Luftwaffe soldier the Ground-Combat Badge. He must participate directly in a storm-assault or hand-to-hand combat. Commanding officers of units will not be invested with this medal by the mere display of excellence in troop-leadership. They must also fulfill the prerequisites prescribed for others.

The badge is in the shape of an oval oak-leaf wreath, within which is portrayed a flash of lightning descending from dark clouds and striking the ground below. The Luftwaffe eagle clutching a swastika appears at the top of the wreath amongst the clouds. The color of the eagle, swastika and wreath is bright-silver, while the clouds, the flash of lightning and the mound are finished in dull-silver. The badge as officially issued is of metal. However, the recipients may procure them in embroidery, at their own expense; officers in embroidery of metal threads, enlisted men in embroidery of wool yarn. The badge has the following dimensions: width and length of oval wreath 42 mm and 55 mm, respectively; wing-spread of eagle 40 mm.

It may also be worn in a miniature form. In all forms, it is worn on the left breast. (Plate XXIII-192)

III. SALVER OF HONOR FOR DISTINGUISHED COMBAT ACCOMPLISHMENTS (Ehrenschale für hervorragende Kampfleistungen)

Founded by Göring on 15 June 1942, this high decoration may be awarded to those members of the Luftwaffe ground troops who have especially distinguished themselves by the display of extraordinary bravery, which feats, however, would not entitle them to the German Cross in Gold. Those recommended for this honor must already possess the Iron Cross 1st class and the Ground-Combat Badge of the Air Force. Up to the present, several officers and enlisted men of parachute and antiaircraft units have received this badge. The names of those invested with this decoration are entered in the "Honor List of the Air Force" (Ehrenliste der Luftwaffe).

The decoration comes in the shape of a shallow plate, whose rim is embellished with alternating oak and laurel leaves; the depressed base of the salver shows the German eagle clutching by its talons two crossed cannon and a swastika. Around the bottom of the base appears the inscription "In Anerkennung hervorragender Kampfleistungen"; the name and rank of the recipient, with the date of the award below it, are inscribed at the top of the base. (Plate XXIII-193)

IV. AIR FORCE ANTIAIRCRAFT BADGE (Kampfabzeichen der Flakartillerie)

This badge, also referred to as the "Flak-Kampfabzeichen", was founded by Göring on 10 January 1941. It consists of an 88-mm antiaircraft gun with the barrel pointing upwards, surrounded by an oval wreath of oak leaves and crowned by the Air Force eagle and swastika. The wreath is 55-mm high and 45-mmwide, with the wing-spread of the eagle approximately 40 mm.

This badge may be awarded to officers and enlisted men of the Air Force antiaircraft artillery for outstanding deeds in combat. Individuals, as well as crews of antiaircraft guns are eligible under the following conditions:

a) For shooting down of enemy aircraft. Crews of heavy and light antiaircraft batteries (troops) become eligible after having participated in five successful combats against hostile aircraft. Serving crews of antiaircraft searchlight batteries (troops) and sections also become eligible after they have directly participated in the spotting of an enemy aircraft on five different occasions and have caused these planes to be shot down by antiaircraft artillery or night-fighters.

b) For having taken part in three different engagements against ground or sea-targets under difficult circumstances, such as the destruction of tanks, bunkers, ships, etc.

c) For exceptionally outstanding deeds by individuals or crews, the badge may be awarded regardless of the number of combats.

Example: The crew of a heavy antiaircraft battery will become eligible after having shot down three enemy planes and having taken part in two engagements against ground or sea-targets.

This insignia is worn on the left breast, and may be worn in a miniature form. (Plate XXIII-194)

V. OTHER AIR FORCE DECORATIONS

The following are other well-known German Air Force decorations:

1. Cup of Honor for Special Accomplishments in Air Warfare
(Ehrenpokal für besondere Leistung im Luftkrieg)
No particulars, description or illustration available.

2. Photograph of the "Reichsmarschall" in a Silver Frame
(Das Bild des Herrn Reichsmarschall im Silberrahmen)

Air Force personnel will in some cases receive the autographed photo of Göring for accomplishments in the air.

3. The Golden Book for Flying Personnel
(Das goldene Buch der Flieger)

4. Honor List of the Air Force
(Ehrenliste der Luftwaffe)

The names of the recipients of the two last-named honors are published periodically in the official Air Force publication "Luftwaffe Verordnungsblatt".

H. SPECIAL NAVY DECORATIONS

The German Navy also issues special badges of its own to its personnel. These are in addition to those that are available to members of the three branches of the Armed Forces. These special badges are presented below:

1. Submarine Service Badge (U-Boots-Kriegsabzeichen 1939)

This badge is awarded to all officers, petty officers and men of submarines who have distinguished themselves by two or more sorties against the enemy. It consists of a submarine within an oval silver wreath of laurel surmounted by a large German eagle clutching a swastika. (Plate XXIV-195

2. Destroyer Service Badge (Zerstörer-Kriegsabzeichen)

Instituted originally for crews of destroyers who under command of Commodore Bonte took part in the battle at Narvik. It is also awarded for special achievements to members of other destroyers, torpedo boats and E-boats. The badge consists of the forepart of a destroyer advancing at speed, surrounded by an oval wreath of oak-leaves and surmounted by a small German eagle and swastika. (Plate XXIV-196)

3. Minesweeper and Escort Craft Service Badge (Kriegsabzeichen für Minensuch-, U-Boots-, Jagd- und Sicherungsverbände)

Awarded to crews of minesweepers, submarine-chasers and other protective vessels as a recognition of good service. The badge shows a mine exploding within an oval wreath of oak-leaves surmounted by the German eagle and swastika. (Plate XXIV-197)

4. Armed Merchant Cruiser Service Badge (Kriegsabzeichen für Hilfskreuzer)

This badge is awarded to crews of armed merchant cruisers engaged in the harassing of enemy merchant shipping. The badge shows a Viking ship sailing over the top of the world globe, within an oval wreath of oak-leaves surmounted by the German eagle and swastika. (Plate XXIV-198)

5. Fleet Service Badge (Flotten-Kriegsabzeichen)

This is awarded to crews of battleships, cruisers and other units operating with the fleet, for whom there is no specific war-badge. It shows a battleship, bows-on, encircled by an oval wreath of oak-leaves, surmounted by the German eagle and swastika. (Plate XXIV-199)

6. PT-Boat (E-Boat) Service Badge (Schnellboot-Kriegsabzeichen)

This badge is awarded to crews of E-boats in recognition of good service. It consists of the foreparts of an E-boat advancing at speed, encircled by an oak-leaf wreath and crowned by the German eagle and swastika. (Plate XXIV-200)

7. Blockade Runners Badge (Abzeichen für Blockadebrecher)

Instituted 1 April 1941, for crews of ships at sea and in foreign ports at the outbreak of the war, which have managed to reach German ports or have scuttled themselves or been sunk in avoiding capture by enemy naval forces. The badge depicts the forepart of a large liner advancing, her figure-head being a gigantic eagle with outstretched wings and clutching the swastika. The whole is encircled by an anchor-chain. (Plate XXIV-201)

8. Naval Coast Artillery Badge (Kriegsabzeichen für Marineartillerie)

This badge is awarded to crews of coast artillery batteries for successful antiaircraft defense. It is a representation of a gun emplaced on the beach with the barrel pointing up to the left at 45 degrees. The whole is set in an oval wreath of oak leaves and surmounted by the German eagle and swastika. (Plate XXIV-202)

I. CERTIFICATES OF AWARD

As already stated, the recipient of a medal is always given a certificate of award (Bezitzzeugnis), attesting to his rightful ownership. This certificate contains the following items: title of the medal; name, rank and unit of the recipient, date of issue. It also bears the stamp of the organization (division etc.), as well as the signature of the issuing officer. Photographs of four of these certificates of award are found on Plate XXV, 203-206.

J. EXAMPLES OF HOW MEDALS ARE WORN

Photographs of members of the German Army and Air Force are found on Plates XXVI-XXVII- Illustrations 207-214. These photographs illustrate the manner in which German medals are worn. Below are listed the medals as identified on the individual photographs.

Illustration 207: Rank: General, Army. Medals: Iron Cross 1st class; War Service of Merit Cross 1st class with swords.

Illustration 208: Rank: 1st Lt., Army. Medals: Iron Cross 2nd class; Eastern Front Medal, Iron Cross 1st class; Wound Badge, in black; German Reich Sports Badge.

Illustration 209: Rank: "Obergruppenführer", RAD. Medals: Iron Cross 2nd class; Unidentifiable; Cross of Honor of the World War (Frontkämpferkreuz); Unidentifiable, Insignia of Honor for the First 100,000 Members; SA-Military Badge; Wound Badge.

Illustration 210: Rank: 2nd Lt., Army. Medals: Right breast: German Cross. Left breast: Close-Combat Badge; Hitler-Youth Insignia; Infantry Assault Badge; Iron Cross 1st class; Wound Badge, in silver.

Illustration 211: Rank: Private, Army. Medals: On right sleeve: 3 Special Insignia for the Single-handed Destruction of Tanks etc.; Ribbon of Iron Cross 2nd class; Iron Cross 1st class.

Illustration 212: Rank: 1st Lt. Air Force. Medals: Right breast: German Cross. Left breast: Pendant to War-Flights Bar in Gold; Gold Hitler-Youth Badge; Wound Badge, in black; Iron Cross 1st class; Pilots Badge. Suspended from neck: Knight's Cross of Iron Cross.

Illustration 213: Rank: Oberfeldwebel, Air Force. Medals: Right breast: Spanish Cross; Left Breast: Ribbon of Iron Cross 2nd class; Iron Cross 1st class; Spanish Grand Cross (a Spanish decoration); Air Force Gunners Badge; Wound Badge, in silver.

Illustration 214: Rank: Oberfeldwebel, Air Force. Medals: Ribbon of Iron Cross 2nd class; Ground Combat badge of the Air Force; Assault Badge (General); Wound Badge, in silver.

PART 2

ILLUSTRATIONS

1. Iron Cross of 1813

2. Iron Cross of 1870

3. Iron Cross of 1914

4. Iron Cross 2nd class

5. Iron Cross 1st class

6. Bar to Iron Cross of 1914

7. Knight's Cross with Oak Leaves

8. Knight's Cross with Oak Leaves and Swords

9. Knight's Cross with Oak Leaves, Swords and Diamonds

10. War Service of Merit Cross 2nd class

11. War Service of Merit Cross 1st class with Swords

12. War Service of Merit Medal

13. Army Wound Badge of 1914

14. Navy Wound Badge of 1914

15. Wound Badge of 1939

16. German Cross

17. Honor-Roll Clasp

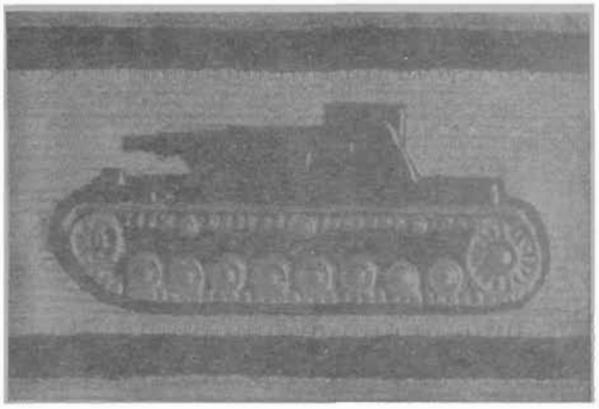
No illustration available

18. Bravery and Service of Merit Badge for Eastern volunteers

19. Infantry Assault Badge

20. Tank Assault Badge

21. Assault Badge (General



22. Special Insignia for the Single-handed Destruction of Tanks etc.

23. Close-Combat Badge

24. Army Antiaircraft Badge

25. Spanish Cross

26. Austrian Medal (Face)

27. Austrian Medal (Reverse)

28. Sudeten Medal (Reverse)

29. Memel Medal (Reverse)

No illustration available

30. Danzig Cross

31. Narvik Shield

32. Crete Armband

33. Cholm Shield

34. Eastern Front Medal (Face)

35. Eastern Front Medal (Reverse)

36. Crimea Shield

37. Demjansk Shield

Illustration not available

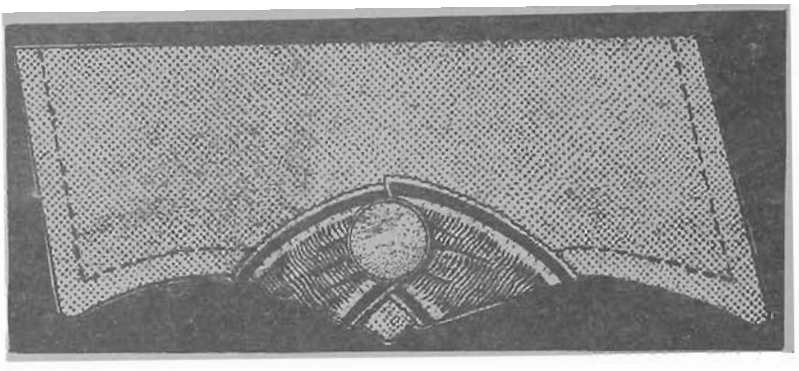
38. Kuban Shield

39. Guerilla-Warfare Medal

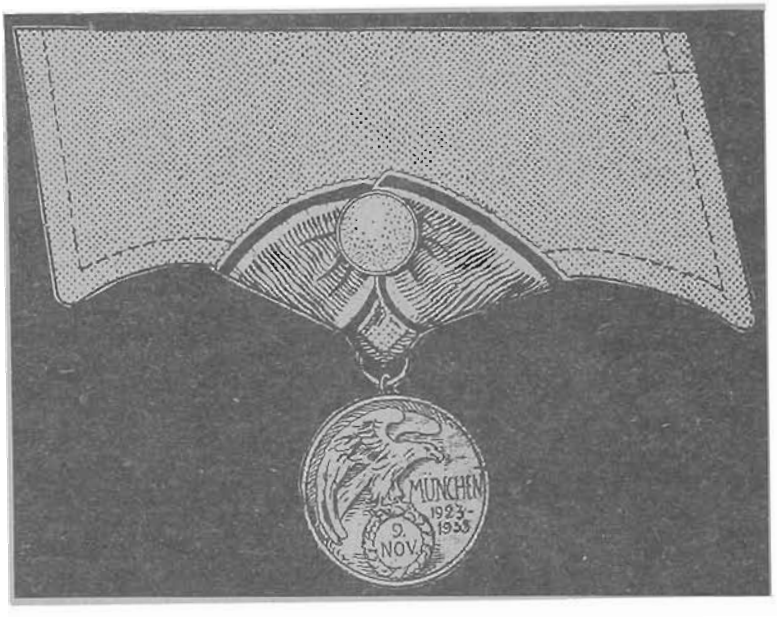
40. Africa Armband

41. German-Italian Commemoration Medal

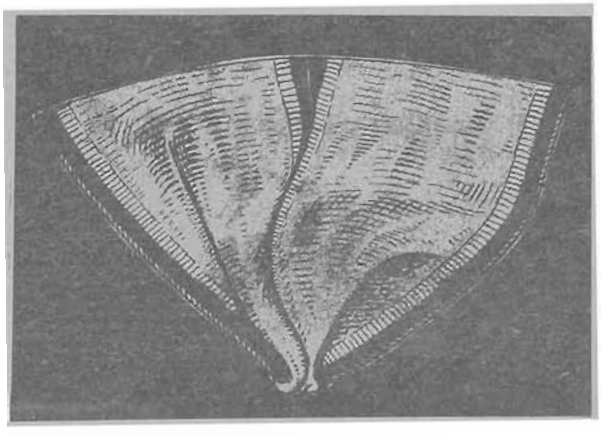
42. Order of Blood Medal



43. Order of Blood Medal Ribbon, as worn from button of breast-pocket



44. Order of Blood Medal, as worn suspended from button of breast-pocket



45. Order of Blood Medal Ribbon, as worn by Air Force personnel

46. Gold Party Badge

47. Coburg Badge

48. Nürnberg Party-Convention Badge of 1929

49. Badge of the SA-Convention at Braunschweig of 1931

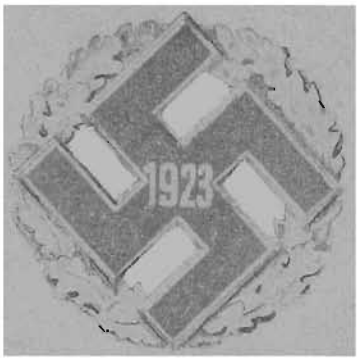
50. Golden Hitler-Youth Badge

51. Miniature Ribbon of Honor

52. Nazi Party Service Badge (Bronze)

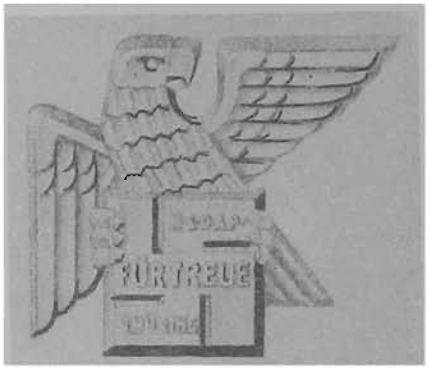
53. Nazi Party Service Badge (Silver)

54. Nazi Party Service Badge (Gold)



55. & 56. Sachsen, Bayerische Ostmark, Halle-Merseburg, Hessen-Nassau, Magdeburg-Anhalt, Mecklenburg

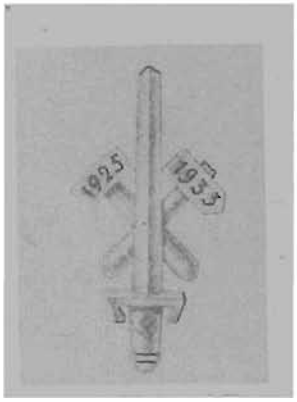
57. Berlin



58. Ostpreussen

59. Danzig

60. Thüringen



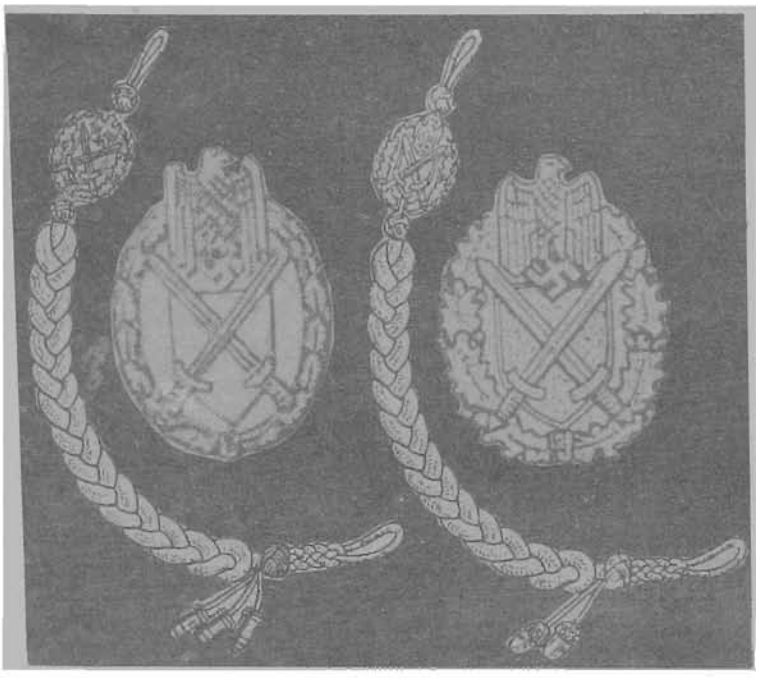
61. Osthannover

62. Essen

63. Baden

64. Baden

65. Motor Vehicle Drivers' Badge of Merit



66. -67.-68.-69. Marksmanship Awards : class 4 for artillery, and class 7 for infantry

70. Longevity Medal, 4 and 8-year service (Face)

71. Longevity Medal, 4-year service (Reverse)

72. Longevity Medal, 8-year service (Reverse)

73. Longevity Medal, 18 and 25-year service (Face)

74. Longevity Medal, 18-year service (Reverse)

75. Longevity Medal, 25-year service (Reverse)

76. Social Service Medal (Face)

77. Social Service Medal (Reverse)

78. Social Service Badge 1st class

79. German Defense-Wall Medal (Face)

80. German Defense-Wall Medal (Reverse)

81. Air-Defense Medal 2nd grade

82. Air-Defense Medal 1st grade

83. Life-Saving Medal (Face)

84. Life-Saving Medal (Reverse)

85. German Eagle Order Cross 3rd class

86. German Eagle Order Medal

87. German Eagle Order Cross 1st class

88. German Eagle Order with Star

89. German Eagle Order Star

90. German Eagle Order Great Cross

91. Cross of Honor of World War with Swords

92. Cross of Honor of World War

93. SA-Military Badge

94. German Reich Sports Badge

95. German Olympia Commemoration Medal (Face)

96. German Olympia Commemoration Medal (Reverse)

97. German Olympia Badge of Honor 1st class

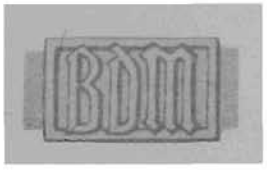
98. NSKK-Sports Badge

99. German Horseman's Badge

100. Hitler-Youth Proficiency Badge

101. German-Youth Proficiency Badge

102. Hitler-Youth Leader Sports Badge



103. German-Girls-Society Proficiency Badge

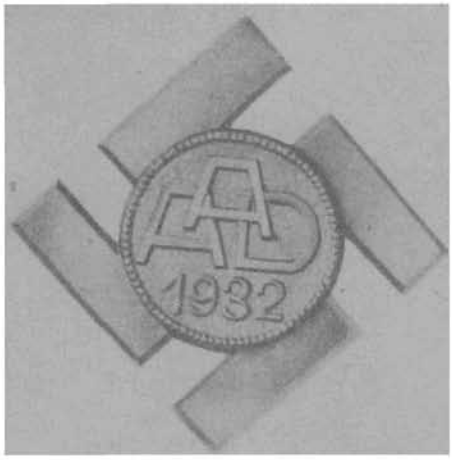
104. Hitler-Youth Badge for Sharpshooters

105. Hitler-Youth Badge for Riflemen

106. Labor Service Badge of Merit (Face)

107. Labor Service Badge of Merit (Reverse)

108. Labor Service Badge of Merit for Women (Face)

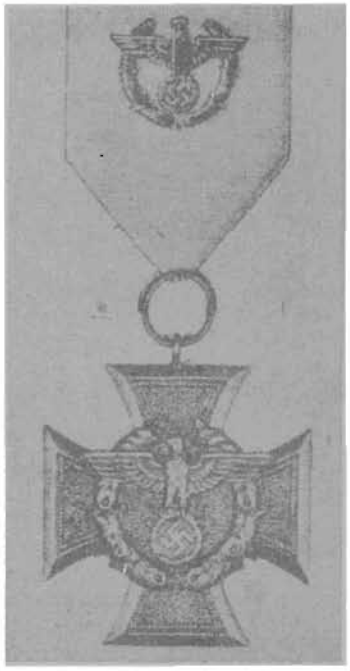


109. Labor Service Badge of Honor of 1932

110. Police Service Badge of Merit 1.cl.(Face)

111. Police Service Badge of Merit 1.cl.(Reverse)

112. Police Service Badge of Merit 3.cl. (Face)



113. Customs Service Badge of Honor

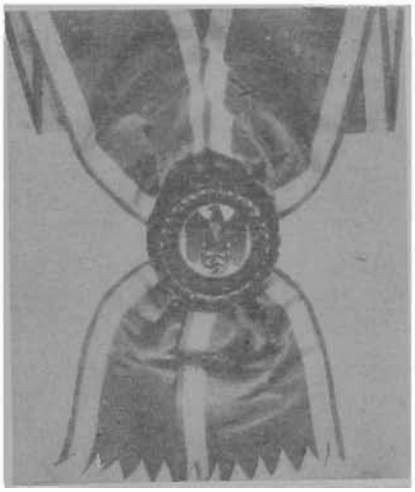
114. Firemen's Badge of Honor

115. Miners' Badge of Honor (Face)
116. Miners' Badge of Honor (Reverse)

117. Faithful Service Medal special class

118. Faithful Service Medal 1st class (Face)

119. Faithful Service Medal 2nd class (Reverse)



120. Prize for Art and Science shoulder ribbon & rosette

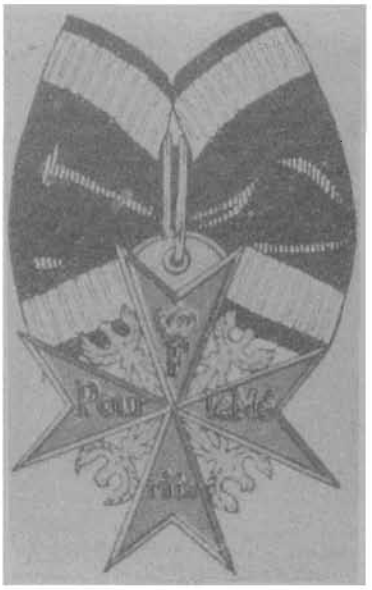
121. Prize for Art and Science Medal

122. Prize for Art and Science Star

123. Dr.Fritz Todt Prize Honor-Pin

124. German Mothers' Cross of Honor

125. Blücher Star



126. Pour Le Merite

127. Pour Le Merite with Oak Leaves

128. House Order of Hohenzollern

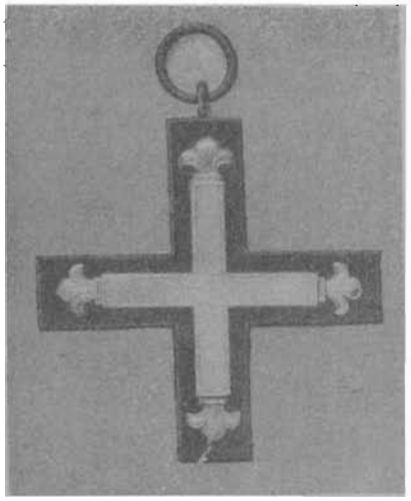
129. Order of the Crown

130. Order of the Red Eagle

131. Military Service of Merit Cross in Gold

132. Red Cross Medal

133. Cross of Merit for Aid in the War Effort



134. Baltic Cross

135. Silesian Badge of Merit 1st cl.

136. Silesian Badge of Merit 2nd cl.

137. Centennial Medal

138. Prussian Military Service Badge 1st class (Face)

139. Prussian Military Service Badge 1st class (Reverse)

140. Prussian Military Service Badge 2nd class (Face)

141. Prussian Military Service Badge 2nd class (Reverse)

142. Prussian Militia Badge

143. Saxony Military Order St. Heinrich Great Cross

144. Saxony Commanders Cross

145. Saxony Military Order St. Heinrich Gold Medal

146. Saxony Friedrich August Medal

147. Bavaria Military Order Max Joseph

148. Military Medical Order of Bavaria

149. Bavaria Gold Bravery Medal (Face)

150. Bavaria Silver Bravery Medal (Reverse)

151. Bavaria Military Service Badge 2nd class (Face)

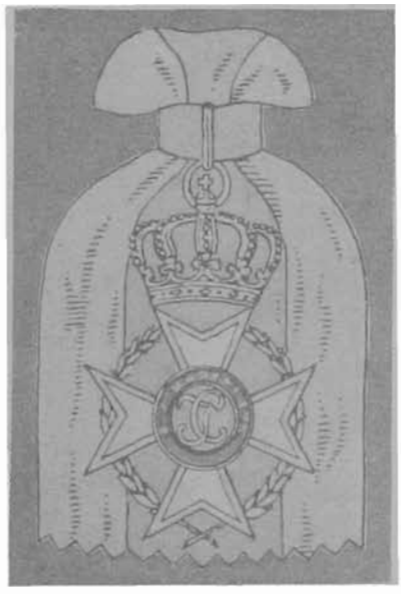
152. Bavaria Military Service Badge 2nd class (Reverse)

153. Württemberg Military Service of Merit Cross (Great Cross)

154. Württemberg Military Service of Merit Gold Medal

155. Württemberg Military Service Badge
156. 1st class (Face and Reverse)

157. Württemberg Military Service Badge
158. 2nd class (Face and Reverse)



159. Baden Military Order of Merit Karl Friedrich (Great Cross)

160. Baden Service of Merit Medal

161. Baden Military Service Badge 1st class
162. (Face and Reverse)

163. Baden Military Service Badge
164. 3rd class (Face and Reverse)

165. Hessen Bravery Medal

166. Mecklenburg-Schwerin Service of Merit Cross

167. Lippe-Detmold War Service of Merit Cross

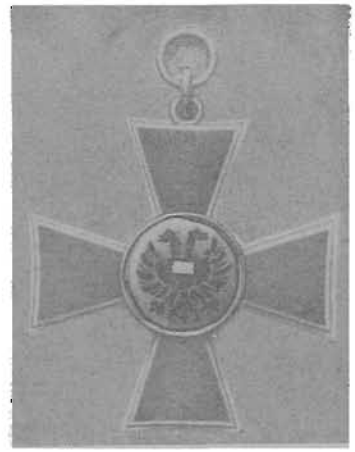
168. Braunschweig War Service of Merit Cross

169. Oldenburg Friedrich August Cross

170. Sachsen-Anhalt Service of Merit Cross

171. Hamburg Hansa Cross

172. Bremen Hansa Cross



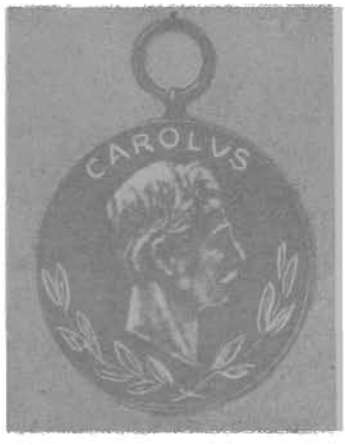
173. Lübeck Hansa Cross

174. Maria Theresia Military Order

175. Austrian Bravery Medal

176. Austrian Commemoration Medal

177. Austrian Military Service of Merit Cross



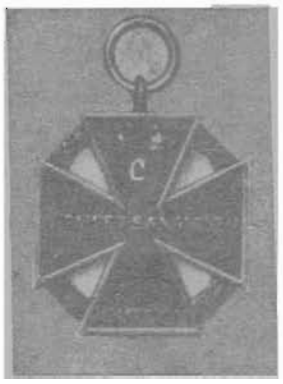
178. Austrian Wound Badge

179. Austrian Karl Military Service of Merit Medal

180. Franz Joseph Bravery Medal

181. Karl Bravery Medal

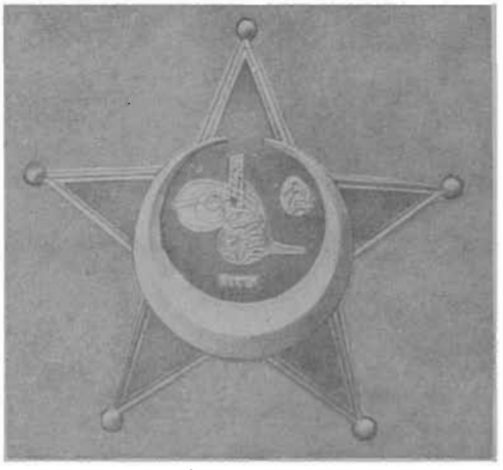
182. Franz Joseph Service of Merit Cross



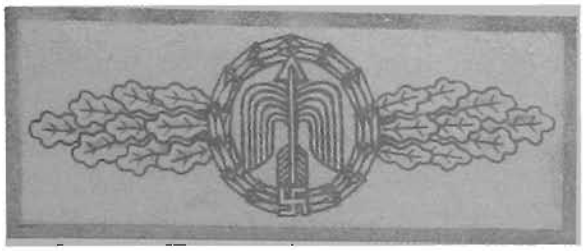
183. Karl Troop-Cross

184. Hungarian Commemoration Medal

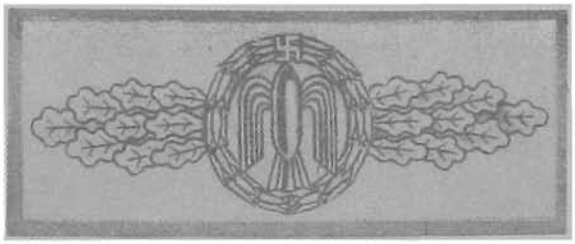
185. Bulgarian Commemoration Medal



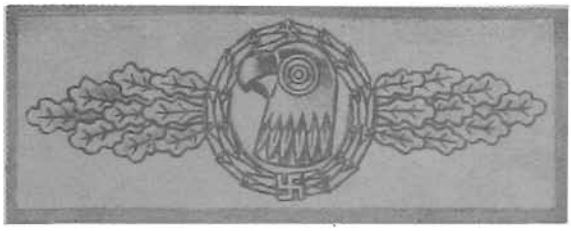
186. Turkish Half-Moon



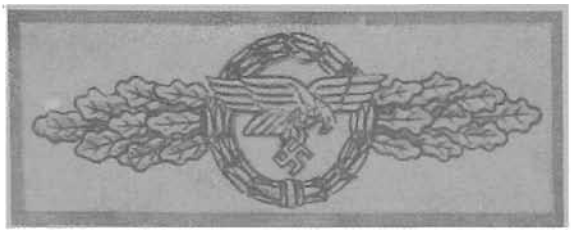
187. War-Flights Bar for Fighter Personnel



188. War-Flights Bar for Bomber Personnel



189. War-Flights Bar for Reconnaissance Personnel



190. War-Flights Bar for Transport Personnel

191. Pendant to War-Flights Bars in Gold

192. Ground Combat Badge of the Air Force

193. Salver of Honor for Distinguished Combat Accomplishments

194. Air Force Antiaircraft Badge

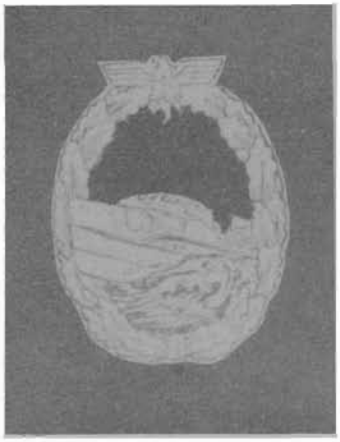
195. Submarine Service Badge

196. Destroyer Service Badge

197. Minesweeper and Escort Craft Service Badge

198. Armed Merchant Cruiser Service Badge

199. Fleet Service Badge



200. PT-Boat Service Badge

201. Blockade Runners Badge

202. Naval Coast Artillery Badge

IM NAMEN DES FÜHRERS
UND OBERSTEN BEFEHLSHABERS
DER WEHRMACHT
VERLEIHE ICH
DEM

Gefreiten

Peter K u r z ,
Stab / Afr.Art.Rgt.1

DAS
EISERNE KREUZ
2. KLASSE

A f r i k a den 15.2. 43

Generalmajor u.Höh.Art.Kdr.Afrika
(DIENSTGRAD UND DIENSTSTELLUNG)

203. Certificate of Award for Iron Cross 2nd class

IM NAMEN DES FÜHRERS
VERLEIHE ICH
DEM

Obergefr. Heinrich O r t h
6./HKAR.1262

DAS
KRIEGSVERDIENSTKREUZ
2. KLASSE
MIT SCHWERTERN

K. H. Qu. DEN 20.April 1944

Der Kommandierende General
I. A.

Major u. Adjutant
(DIENSTGRAD UND DIENSTSTELLUNG)

204. Certificate of Award for War Service of Merit Cross 2nd class

IM NAMEN DES FÜHRERS
UND
OBERSTEN BEFEHLSHABERS
DER WEHRMACHT
IST DEM

Unteroffizier Heinrich B i c k

AM 1.9.1942

DIE MEDAILLE
WINTERSCHLACHT IM OSTEN
1941/42
(OSTMEDAILLE)
VERLIEHEN WORDEN.

FÜR DIE RICHTIGKEIT

Oberst u. Rgt.-Kommandeur.

205. Certificate of Award for Eastern Front Medal

BESITZZEUGNIS

DEM

SS-Kanonier

August H a g e m e i e r

4./SS-Flak-Abt. "Das Reich"

WURDE DAS
HEERES-FLAK-ABZEICHEN
VERLIEHEN.

HAUPTQUARTIER OKH. DEN 15. November 1943.

GENERAL DER ARTILLERIE
BEIM OBERBEFEHLSHABER DES HEERES

GENERALLEUTNANT

206. Certificate of Award for Army Antiaircraft Badge

207.

208.

209.

210.

211.

212.

213.

214.

(28162) Wt. 31952/20 26-48-2 500 11/44 L. & B.